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GOOD-BYE TO "BOBS."

Last Commander-in-Chief
Retires From the
War Office.

A GREAT CAREER.

On Monday evening the last of the British Commanders-in-Chief left the War Office. Lord Roberts, the third holder of this supreme military distinction, had quietly laid down his harness and passed out into the limbo of retirement; full of years and of honours; touched by the gratitude of King and nation.

Forty-one years in India and eleven years at home, interrupted by the great effort of the South African war—from the Mutiny to Pretoria—such is Lord Roberts's record, covered by an array of war medals that only Lord Wolseley can equal.

It was in 1852 that the boyish artillery subaltern set out for India. Five years later he got his first chance. The Mutiny gave young Roberts opportunities that, for all his modesty, belong to Indian history. His share in that struggle may be gauged from the fact that when accounts came to be reckoned up the artillery subaltern of yesterday found himself a captain and brevet-major, the wearer of a Mutiny medal whose clasps showed that he had taken part in the Siege of Delhi, and the Relief and Siege of Lucknow. His Victoria Cross was won early in the campaign, and Queen Victoria herself pinned it to his breast.

Quietly Saying Good-bye.

Abyssinia, the Indian frontier, and Afghanistan—these kept this intrepid soldier busy during the intervals when he was not at work upon his Indian armies. A kindly man and a generous, small wonder that his men were devoted to him with a devotion bordering on worship. He himself has told us how, in the Afghan campaign, his orderlies would stand between him and the bullets, hoping to screen him with their own bodies.

He left behind him in India an army that, for training and organisation, was second to none. With six great campaigns to his credit and fifty pitched battles, it was thought that Bob's fighting days were over. But the South African war found him ready to take the field under circumstances that moved the whole country.

And now, after fifty-two years of strenuous labour, Lord Roberts's work is done. New measures have demanded new men, and the little hero, touching his seventy-second year, has made way for the younger generation knocking at the door.

Quietly and unostentatiously, he has been passing in and out of the departments of the great, rambling old War Office, shaking hands and saying good-bye.

A General Favourite.

Neat as a new pin, smart, soldierly, carrying his age with ease, Lord Roberts was of late years a familiar figure in Pall Mall or in Portland-place, where his town house fills a corner. Here the sound of his carriage wheels always brought faces to the windows and aroused the passer-by to a quick recognition of the sun-tanned little hero who was driving with his wife and daughters.

At the Coronation, at the Jubilee, Lord Roberts, on a splendid charger, was a conspicuous and popular figure.

He has twice visited Germany as the guest of a Kaiser. The old Emperor welcomed him at the Hanoverian manoeuvres of 1880, and the present Kaiser was his host a short time since.

The French, too, have a warm place in their some years back that gave a fictitious account of a modern Anglo-French war, Lord Roberts was depicted as dying heroically at the head of a cavalry charge!

The great Duke spent the evening of his days in peace and quiet, the trusted and honoured friend of his Sovereign, acclaimed by the people, revered by the Army. To some such kindly haven can Earl Roberts of Candahar and Pretoria now look forward, life's work well done, and conscious of a worthy place in the history of the Empire he has served so well through half a century.

OUR LAST COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.



There was no ostentation or dramatic effect to mark the final departure of Lord Roberts from the War Office. His acknowledgment of the sentries' salute was his farewell. A great fighter and a great general, he has taken part in seven important campaigns and over fifty battles during the fifty-two years since he first donned the uniform of the Army.

RUSSIAN VICTORY?

Reported Repulse of the Japanese Fleet.

PORT ARTHUR ATTACK.

Four Battleships Said To Be Sunk.

WHAT IS THE TRUTH?

A Russian official report states that the Japanese squadron has been repulsed in an attack on Port Arthur.

It is stated that four battleships and two transports were sunk.

Though there is a certain amount of doubt as to the details, it seems probable that there is a basis of truth in the report.

There is no news of land operations.

Something has taken place at Port Arthur, but it is difficult to tell what.

The first rumour of a third attack by Admiral Togo came from Tokio. This morning's news is from St. Petersburg, and claims a great Russian victory.

Reuter telegraphs:—
"An official dispatch announces that a Japanese attack upon Port Arthur by sea has been repulsed. Four Japanese battleships and two Japanese transports were sunk."

"The Russian battleship Retvizan covered itself with glory."

The report is not given entire credence even at St. Petersburg. A later telegram says:—

"The dispatch announcing the great Russian victory at Port Arthur is not yet confirmed, and there appears to be a certain doubt in official quarters concerning it, at any rate, as regards the details."

From Chifu, the Chinese port almost opposite Port Arthur, on the other side of the straits leading into the Gulf of Pechili, comes the following cable, dated the 23rd:—

"The Russian Consul announces that Port Arthur was attacked by the Japanese fleet after midnight early this morning."

"Four Japanese vessels were destroyed. Passengers who have arrived at Chinwang-tao by the German steamer Jaeschke announce that there was continuous firing off Port Arthur between one and four this morning."

"The night was moonless, and there is no doubt that the Japanese, in trying to steal an entrance into the harbour, were repulsed."

DID THE ATTACK FAIL?

According to a Reuter Paris telegram, the French Consul at Chifu has informed the Ministry for Foreign Affairs that the Japanese squadron attacked Port Arthur on Tuesday night. The dispatch adds that the attack failed, and that four Japanese vessels are said to be ashore.

Shanghai—not in itself a credible witness—is useful for purposes of corroboration. A Reuter's telegram from that port says:—

"The Russian Consul and the commander of the Russian gunboat here have received an official telegram which states that the Japanese fleet made a fruitless attack on Port Arthur last night, and that six vessels are reported to have been disabled. The description and nationality of the disabled ships are uncertain."

A message from the British port of Wei-hai-Wei says four Japanese battleships and nine Japanese cruisers passed there yesterday, heading east. They afterwards took a south-easterly direction.

Taking these messages in conjunction it is hard, sceptically as Russian official statements should be received, to disbelieve that a highly important action has taken place.

The attack on Port Arthur, it will be noticed from the Chifu dispatches, took place early on the morning of Tuesday. On Wednesday morning Admiral Togo's fleet was observed off Wei-hai-Wei, heading in a direction which suggests that the Admiral had determined to leave the Gulf of Pechili and gain the Yellow Sea.

Now the strength of Admiral Togo's squadron on the first attack on Port Arthur was reported by the Russians to be sixteen. The ships observed off Wei-hai-Wei numbered thirteen. Are the other three disabled at Port Arthur? To make up the complete list of four losses claimed by the Russians it is necessary to suppose that the squadron has been reinforced by another ship since February 9. There is nothing improbable in such a supposition, as, after the sinking of the Variag, part of Japan's naval force might be relieved from the work of convoying transports.

MUD OR GLORY?

So far there is nothing to disprove the Russian account. But one sentence seems to throw some shade of doubt on the message. "The Russian battleship Retvizan," it says, "covered itself with glory."

Now, the Retvizan was one of the two battleships torpedoed in the first Japanese attack, on February 8. Admiral Alexieff himself did not conceal that she was badly hurt, and that her repair would be "a complicated business." Independent information was all to the effect that she was hopelessly disabled, and far from being covered with glory, she was covered with barnacles and the mud of Port Arthur harbour.

How this ship managed to take a leading part in the fighting, as suggested, it is difficult to see. Neither the Russian nor the Japanese Ambassador in London had received news of the engagement up to a late hour last night.

At the Japanese Embassy the report was not altogether credited in the absence of official news from Tokio, and was believed to be based on M. Pavloff's telegram reporting the sinking of Japanese ships at Chemulpho.

BRITISH STEAMERS CAUGHT.

COLLIERS STOPPED BY RUSSIAN DESTROYERS IN THE RED SEA.

The Russian squadron in the Red Sea has been stopping British ships.

According to a Reuter's Special, the captain of the steamer Luristan, bound from London to Bombay, which has arrived at Saakin, reports that the vessel was stopped and examined by Russian destroyers a few miles south of the Dardanelles, and that the Russians informed him that three British steamers laden with coal for Japan had been captured by them.

Other colliers from England have gone by the Cape route to avoid capture.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamship Bingo Maru arrived at Cardiff yesterday morning in ballast, and will take a cargo of about 7,000 or 8,000 tons of steam coal for Japan. The steamship Sado Maru is also loading 5,000 tons of coal, while two other vessels are also going to the Far East. The four steamers will carry approximately 25,000 tons.

RELIEF FOR THE MANDJUR.

The gunboat Mandjur, for which a Japanese cruiser has been lying in wait, is still at Shanghai. According to a Reuter's telegram it is reported that the Chinese Foreign Office has agreed to allow her to remain, on condition that her rudder is dismantled and her fires extinguished.

The Japanese cruiser which was at Wusung (just outside the harbour) has proceeded north.

In the House of Commons yesterday, Mr. Ian Malcolm asked whether there was any foundation for the report that H. M. Consul-General at Shanghai had associated himself with the demand that the Mandjur should leave port.

Lord Percy: No, sir; H. M. Consul-General took no part whatever in the demand for the withdrawal of that ship.

THE OPERATIONS ON LAND.

Of the land operations there is little to say. The Japanese are advancing northward in Korea. Some 40,000 men in all have been landed at Chemulpho, and the line of march to Ping-yang, about halfway towards the Yalu River, is being guarded.

The Russians, according to Reuter, are keeping open communication between Wija and An-jui, some 100 miles south of the Yalu and forty miles north of Ping-yang, but beyond this there has been no advance south. Russian spies are in the vicinity of the last-named place. In prospect of Ping-yang becoming the centre of operations the inhabitants are panic-stricken.

They have some reason to be, for the place was the scene of a bitter, and in the Chino-Japanese conflict, and the inhabitants saw more than enough of the horrors of war.

Owing to a partial thaw the Korean roads are in a very bad state, and the transportation of provisions and ammunition is very difficult.

The condition of the country, indeed, is only faintly imaginable here. According to Russian officers, quoted by Reuter's Agency, during the events of 1894 paths had to be traversed so narrow that small two-wheeled vehicles had only one wheel on the path and the other in the air overhanging a precipice. As regards provisions, there is plenty of meat, but little corn, eggs and hens in abundance, and rice according to the harvest.

TSAR AND THE "JUST CAUSE."

ST. PETERSBURG, Wednesday.

At the Winter Palace yesterday the Tsar received a deputation from the Zemstvo of the province of St. Petersburg, which presented a loyal address. His Majesty, in reply, observed that he hoped for the help of God in a just cause, and was assured that his valiant army and navy would do their duty for the honour and glory of the Fatherland.—Reuter

RUSSIA WAITING HER TIME.

The "New York Herald" (Paris edition) publishes a telegram from St. Petersburg according to which the Russian fleet has received orders not to seek conflict, but to remain on the defensive until the commencement of July, by which time half the Baltic fleet will be on the way to the Far East.

It is also hoped that part of the Black Sea fleet will be en route then. Work on ships under construction is being actively pushed forward.

DIARY OF THE WAR.

Feb. 5.—Japan sends her Note breaking off negotiations.
Feb. 7.—News published in St. Petersburg and London.
Feb. 8.—Russia has the first shot, the Korietz firing on Japanese warships off Chemulpho.
At midnight the Japanese made a torpedo attack at Port Arthur, disabling three Russian ships.
Feb. 9.—Naval battle off Port Arthur; four Russian ships disabled.
Combat between Japanese squadron and Russian ships Variag and Korietz off Chemulpho; both Russians sunk. Japanese troops landed.
Tsar prays for success to Russian arms.

Feb. 10.—Tsar issues formal proclamation of war.
Feb. 11.—Japanese occupy Seoul, the capital of Korea.
M. Kurino, the Japanese Ambassador, leaves St. Petersburg.
Feb. 11.—Bridge on Manchurian Railway reported blown up.

BELATED LETTERS REAPPEAR.

So long ago as 1881 a Mrs. Jones, of South Shields, posted two letters to her husband, at the Seamen's Institute in Bilbao, and about the same time Mr. Jones's mother posted a letter to her son at the same place. He never received them, and nothing more was heard of them until the other day, when, to Mrs. Jones's intense surprise, the three letters were delivered to her in South Shields by the postman. They had been lying for twenty-three years in the Bilbao Institute.

Several hundred Turcomans have applied to the Governor-General of Turkestan to be sent to the theatre of war as volunteers for Russia.

WAR FLASHES.

SIDELIGHTS ON THE CONFLICT FROM MANY SOURCES.

The Port Arthur journal "Novi Krai" (the new country) conceals its apprehensions at intervals. Only one compositor remains at his post.

Great excitement has been shown on the Chicago wheat market in consequence of the growing fear of European complications.

The fund raised in London on behalf of the widows and orphans of Japanese soldiers and sailors has now reached £4,800.

The war is having a very serious effect upon the London game market. It is now impossible to obtain consignments from Russia, and a great many employes have been temporarily thrown out of work.

The Japanese National War Loan of £10,000,000 has been covered nearly four times over, even servants and labourers combining in the effort to respond to the Government's appeal. The patriotism of the lower classes is intense.

"Our conduct of the war," observes a Russian statesman, "will be marked not by haste but by thoroughness. We shall deliver our blows at a late hour, but that hour will be decisive, and will determine the entire future of East Asia."

The report that seventy miles of railway track and some important bridges have been destroyed between Harbin and Vladivostok is confirmed.

"Vanity Fair's" view of the Tsar:—

A much to be pitied young man.
A sadly-committed young man;
A quite up-a-tree-ey.
A most Japan-uneasy.
A Peacy and Worry young man.

According to a Washington Reuter telegram Mr. Hay has received information that Japan has negotiated a treaty with Korea by which Japan guarantees the independence and integrity of Korea.

The "Figaro" remarks that "Great Britain's naval preparations are in the present circumstances in no way alarming. We ourselves are taking similar measures, particularly in regard to the defence of Indo-China."

Don Jaime, son of Don Carlos, who is about to proceed on active service with the Russian army against the Japanese, arrived in Rome yesterday to take the part of his relatives. He was received by the Pope, who gave the Prince his blessing.

Praise From the Enemy.

The "Novoe Vremya" pays this tribute to the enemy:—The Japanese artillery is armed with guns of the latest systems and the gunners are excellent marksmen. The hospital department is organised most excellently. There is an adequate supply of surgeons, and the field-hospitals are provided richly with every requisite."

Reported Hanging of Japanese.

No official confirmation of the hanging of the three Japanese officers has been received at the Japanese Embassy, and a representative of the "Daily Illustrated Mirror" found that the Ambassador indeed was inclined to think that the report was a mistake. The names of the officers mentioned are not in the Japanese Army list.

The Old Style.

During the Satsuma rebellion of 1873 two Japanese forces found themselves one morning on opposite sides of a river. They were both equipped with rifles. One leader came down to the river's bank and shouted across to the opposing force, "Throw away your rifles and draw your swords, and let us fight this matter out in the good old way." They did. The two sides came down into the muddy bed of that river, and hacked at each other until one was forced to withdraw.—Reuter

"DAILY MAIL" WAR MAP.

Owing to the continued large demand for the map of the "Far East" over 100,000 copies have now been produced. The scale is larger and the information is fuller than any other map published at the same price.

The map folds within a cover into convenient size and may be obtained from the publishers, George Philip and Son, Limited, 32, Fleet-street, E.C., and of all booksellers, newsgaters, and bookstalls. Price 1s. 6d., or, mounted on cloth, 2s. 7d.

Russian transport Yenisei blown up by a mine at Port Arthur. Four officers and ninety-two men killed.

Japan formally proclaims war.

Declaration of neutrality by the other Great Powers.

Feb. 13.—China addresses a Note to Japan and Russia that if the Imperial Tombs at Mukden are not respected the will take steps to protect them by force.

Feb. 14.—Second night torpedo attack on Port Arthur. Russian cruiser Boyarin damaged.

Feb. 15.—New cruisers Kasuga and Nishin reach Japan.

Feb. 16.—New cruiser Kasuga and Nishin reach Japan.

Feb. 17.—First encounter between Cossacks and a small Japanese detachment in Korean territory, on the south side of the Yalu. Some Japanese taken prisoners.

Feb. 23.—Reported repulse of Japanese naval attack on Port Arthur. Russians allege that four battleships were sunk.

SERGEANT'S DESPERATE ENCOUNTER.

A private of the 1st Berkshire Regiment, named Baxter, stationed at Inkerman Barracks, Woking, has been placed under arrest on a charge of attempted murder at his "trachery."

It alleged that as Sergeant Levy, attached to the prisoner's company, was passing the verandah of the mess room at ten o'clock on Sunday evening, Baxter sprang upon him with an open razor in his hand. A desperate struggle ensued, Levy shouting for assistance. Help arriving Baxter, a man of fine stature, was overpowered, but not before he had inflicted five wounds upon the sergeant's face and head. Baxter was yesterday handed over to the civil police.

ENGLAND WINS.

The White Star Chairman Accepts the Presidency of the Shipping Trust.

The last has been heard of the Atlantic Shipping Trust. The Americans have failed. This is how English shipping authorities read the announcement that Mr. Clement Griscom has resigned the presidency of the International Mercantile Marine, and that Mr. Bruce Ismay has been desired to take his place.

The story of the struggle of the past three years is typical of American methods. Mr. Pierpont Morgan conceived the idea of founding an American mercantile marine and obtaining control of the vast business of the Atlantic Ocean. There is no doubt that had his colleagues in the enterprise backed Mr. Morgan in the way he expected he would have achieved his aim. But they could not, from sheer inability to cope with the contending force of British shipping, the president of the White Star Line, who will retire from an office in New York take over the supreme control of the Atlantic trade.

It is an old story how Mr. Morgan and his friends bought the Ellerman line at a fancy and preposterous figure and then forced the other lines into his corporation. Until then the main lines were only the Cunard and the White Star companies. Finally, however, Mr. Ismay was induced to join the combine.

The capital of this gigantic union amounted to slightly under £20,000,000, of which sum Mr. Morgan received £2,000,000 as his commission on the share. The capital at the outset was mostly in the form of paper, but neither Mr. Morgan nor his friends ever doubted that the public would eagerly rush for shares. Fortunately for this country the public did not do so.

A prominent shipping man, seen by a representative of the "Daily Illustrated Mirror" last night, was enthusiastic. "Ismay," he said, "is the man. Morgan could do nothing without his co-operation, and was bound to come to him sooner or later. What has really happened is that the Americans have promoted an immense combination and have been forced to come to an Englishman to run it. Don't call it any more the American Shipping Trust; call it the English Shipping Trust, for that is what it is going to be. As for the future, watch the Germans."

MR. BALFOUR IN TOWN.

He Arrives in London After a Ten Days' Rest.

Mr. Balfour arrived at Victoria at five minutes past five yesterday afternoon from Brighton. As the Prime Minister strolled across the platform he was seen to be reading a blue official paper. Immediately on entering his carriage, where his sister, Miss Balfour, was waiting, he took off his hat and leaned back as though fatigued by his journey. He arrived at Downing-street at 5.15, his luggage coming on afterwards in a cab. He was received by his sister, Lady Rayleigh, and his private secretaries, Mr. Sandars and Mr. Ramsay.

In the evening Mr. Balfour had a private audience with the King at Buckingham Palace. The Prime Minister will preside at a meeting of the Cabinet at noon to-day, and in all probability will pay a brief visit to the House of Commons in the afternoon. Afterwards Mr. Balfour will return to Brighton for the week-end, and he hopes to resume his Parliamentary duties on Monday or Tuesday.

MR. GEORGE EDWARDES'S NEXT.

A Change Expected at the Imperial Before Long.

The following is the cast of the new musical play, to be produced at Daly's Theatre on March 5:—

Charles Vereker	Mr. C. Hayden Collier
Boothampham Clutter Bhooy	Mr. Rutland Barrington
Sir Peter Lefter	Mr. Fred. D. D.
Bobbie Warren	Mr. Aubrey Fitzgerald
Freddie Lowther	Mr. Arthur H. H.
Dick Bohanquet	Mr. Conway P. P.
Jack Clinton	Mr. Archie Anderson
Myangah	Mr. Huxley Wright
Clambladder Rasm	Mr. F. J. J.
Nanoya	Miss Sybil J. J.
Peggy Sabine	Miss Carrie J. J.
Nicoma Lefter	Miss Alice J. J.
Sattambi	Miss Alice J. J.
Mychellah	Miss Doris J. J.
Georow	Miss Nina J. J.
Miss Miggs	Miss Marian J. J.
Freddie Sauer	Miss Mabel J. J.
Mademoiselle Sallet	Miss Joan J. J.
Signorina Tassio	Miss Joan J. J.
Angy Loftus	Miss Joan J. J.
Lady Patricia Vane	Miss Isabel J. J.

Act I.—Verker Tree Plantation.

Act II.—Outside Boothampham's Palace.

As foreshadowed in the "Daily Illustrated Mirror" some days ago, Mr. Lewis Waller's next production at the Imperial will be "A Marriage of Convenience," by Sydney Grundy. We regret to hear that the notice is up at the Imperial for "A Queen's Romance," and that Mr. Waller is busy rehearsing Mr. Grundy's piece with a view to producing it immediately, probably in about ten days' time.

After this Mr. Waller may produce the Transatlantic play, "Darcy of the Guards," or a play by Mr. Lyall Swete, which he is considering.

Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree, before starting off on tour with his own Shakespearean company, found time to look in at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, and witness the skit on his production of "The Darling of the Gods." Mr. Tree was immensely amused, and offered to make an appointment for following morning with Mr. Arthur Roberts, in case he would like any further hints of any kind for his impersonation of Mr. Tree.

Since she was placed on the "black list" a woman who was fined at last street yesterday has been seven times convicted of drunkenness.

TO-DAY'S WEATHER.

Our special weather forecast for to-day is: Continuing cold, dry and cloudy generally; slight snow in places; brisk easterly breezes. Lighting-up time: 6.30 p.m. Sea passages across the English Channel will be moderate; in the North Sea rather rough; in the Irish Channel smooth.

TO-DAY'S NEWS AT A GLANCE.

There are numerous messages emanating from Russian sources that the Japanese fleet has been repulsed in an attack on Port Arthur. The losses are said to comprise four battleships and two transports. While there is no corroboration of the Japanese losses the independent telegrams seem to indicate that there has been something of the kind. (Page 2.)

Various subjects, including that of Chinese labour in South Africa, concerned the Commons yesterday. In Committee of Supply on the Supplementary Civil Service Estimates, discussion arose respecting Osborne House and St. James's Park. In a division the Government majority fell to 37. (Page 15.)

The King yesterday paid a visit to the Shire Horse Show at the Agricultural Hall, Islington. Four of his Majesty's exhibits were awarded prizes. (Page 2.)

Mr. Balfour returned to town from Brighton yesterday. It is thought that he may be able to resume his duties in the House of Commons to-day. (Page 3.)

The danger in the Near East has reached an acute stage, Turkey and Bulgaria being considered to be on the verge of war. (Page 5.)

Evidence given at the inquest respecting the death of Miss Helen Lovell, found drowned in a pond at Spye Park House, Chippenham, showed conclusively that the case was one of suicide. A verdict was returned accordingly. (Page 6.)

In the Divorce Division yesterday, the hearing was concluded of the case of Narese v. Narese and Jones, in which the King's Proctor intervened. The jury found that the decree nisi had been obtained by the collusion of certain parties, and the petition was accordingly dismissed with costs. (Page 6.)

Another of a series of attempts to wreck trains on the Blyth and Tyne Railway took place yesterday near Jesmond, Newcastle. Fortunately it was unsuccessful. (Page 4.)

A shocking domestic tragedy is reported from Maidstone, the wife and two daughters of Mr. Charles Tootell, an auctioneer, being found murdered in bed. The police are in possession of the facts, and are hopeful of securing an early arrest. (Page 3.)

The story of the courtship of a nurse and coachman ending in a breach of promise action was told yesterday in the London Sheriff's Court, the jury awarding plaintiff £40 damages. (Page 6.)

A Blackburn schoolgirl named Evans has committed suicide by jumping into the canal. (Page 6.)

The hearing was resumed yesterday, before Mr. Justice Wills and a jury, of the action for libel and slander brought by Mr. A. B. Lucy, student, against Mr. E. H. Wilkins, a Croydon gentleman. At the conclusion of some interesting evidence the case was adjourned till to-day. (Page 6.)

Replying to a question in the House of Commons, Lord Balcarras said that the question of erecting a statue of Queen Victoria in Westminster Hall was still under consideration. (Page 4.)

An extraordinary story was told at Barnsley Police Court yesterday, when James Williams, a police pensioner, was remanded. It was alleged that prisoner, armed with a loaded revolver, nearly succeeded in shooting his wife and a magistrate. (Page 4.)

This evening the Ancient Society of Cogers celebrates its 150th anniversary at the Royal Bridewell Hospital, when the Hon. Matthew White Ridley, M.P., opens the debate. (Page 5.)

The fact has been heard of the Atlantic Shipping Trust, Americans having failed to secure all that they wished for. It is announced that Mr. Clement has resigned the presidency of the International Mercantile Marine, and Mr. Bruce Tompkins desired to act as his successor. (Page 4.)

Mr. Mead, the Thames Police Court magistrate, has been compelled, owing to a sudden attack of illness, to relinquish duty for the present. (Page 6.)

Mr. P. F. Warner and the New South Wales Cricket Association have come to an amicable arrangement regarding the appointment of Gillman as a umpire in the fourth Test match, which commences at Sydney to-morrow. (Page 14.)

Mr. W. M. G. Singer owned, and Mr. Davies trained, three winners at Warwick yesterday in Kollan, Rover II., and Trelawny. P. and Captain Dewhurst also trained a couple of successful competitors in Repel and The Hawk. (Page 14.)

Business on the Stock Exchange yesterday began well and finished indifferently. Consols were an unsatisfactory feature, and Home Rails on the Russian, Japanese, and Chinese war bonds were mining market. (Page 15.)

To-Day's Arrangements.

Café Chantant under the patronage of Princess Louise Duchess of Argyll in aid of the Hospital for Epilepsy and Paralysis, Maid Vale.
Anglo-French Dinner under the auspices of the City of London International Commercial Association.
Luncheon of the Coal Conciliation Board to-day.
Luncheon of the Education of Imperial Japanese Naval Service, at the Royal United Service Institution, 3.
Racing, Warwick.
Amateur theatricals at Grosvenor House.
Fitt Club Dinner at the Grand Hotel.

MORE DEADLY THAN ARTILLERY.



While a French regiment was manoeuvring on the slopes of the Alps to the north of Barcelonnette, near the Italian frontier, they were suddenly overwhelmed by an avalanche and nineteen men were buried in the snow. Six were killed.

TRIPLE TRAGEDY.

Wife and Daughter of Well-known Maidstone Auctioneer Found Dead.

Servants in the household of Mr. Charles Tootell, an auctioneer, residing at London-road, Maidstone, made a terrible discovery yesterday morning. Upon entering the bedrooms of their mistress and two of the daughters all three were found lying dead in their beds with their throats cut. Mr. Tootell was not in the house, and his present whereabouts are not known. Nothing had occurred in the hearing of the servants during the night to give them cause for alarm. Mr. Tootell had returned home from business as usual on Tuesday night, and appeared quite cheerful. His sister visited the house that evening, and spent several hours with the family, leaving about ten o'clock. It was only when the servants noticed that Mrs. Tootell and the girls were not moving about their

rooms as usual yesterday morning that they proceeded to call them and were alarmed to find the doors locked. Assistance was summoned, and it was decided to break the doors in, when the horrible discovery was made.

Information was at once given to the police, who made an examination of the premises, and it is stated that two blood-stained razors were found in one of the pockets of Mr. Tootell's dressing-gown. Beyond this little is known of the circumstances of the terrible affair.

Husband to be Arrested.

Mr. Tootell is in partnership with his brother as a land surveyor and auctioneer, and he holds the position of surveyor to the Maidstone Trustees of the Poor, for which body he has just completed a new valuation list, a work which has occupied him nearly two years. He was connected for many years with the Maidstone Volunteer companies of the Royal West Kent Regiment, and a little more than a year ago retired from the corps with the honorary rank of Major.

It is understood that Mr. Tootell was engaged at his office in King-street all day on Tuesday. The police have obtained a warrant for his arrest. Mrs. Tootell is described as a woman of pre-

possessing appearance and about forty-five years of age.

Later information shows that, when the bedroom of Mr. and Mrs. Tootell was entered, the contents of the room appeared to be in confusion, and some of the furniture was disturbed. Mrs. Tootell was lying in bed, attired in her night-dress. The two girls, who were aged seventeen and eleven respectively, were found dead in their bed in an adjoining room.

It is believed that Mr. Tootell left the house only partially clothed, or that he put on some clothes that he did not wear on Tuesday, as most of the latter were found in the bedroom. The police are of opinion that, after leaving the house, Mr. Tootell jumped into the Medway, which runs near to the house. The river has been dragged and the banks searched, but so far no trace of the missing man has been discovered.

Mr. Tootell is a son of a former mayor of the borough, and is described as a most genial man, with hosts of friends in the town. For some years he has suffered from ear trouble, for which he underwent an operation, and it is possible that a recurrence of this affliction, combined with his recent heavy work, resulted in his general health being undermined.

MUCH NEWS IN FEW WORDS.

Interesting and Curious Happenings from Many Sources.

Manchester licensing justices have just abolished forty-five licences in that city.

Newbury, in Berkshire, is looking forward to a novel auction of twenty ready-made coffins.

Mr. Enoch Edwards will succeed the late Mr. Benjamin Pickard as president of the Miners' Federation.

Sir Thomas Dewar has given notice of a question in the House of Commons on the subject of the Thames defences.

The Home Secretary announces that he is not prepared to sanction the appointment of additional Metropolitan magistrates.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer has appointed the Hon. M. W. Ridley, M.P., to be his assistant private secretary, unpaid.

An oil waggon carrying 600 gallons of oil is to be purchased by the London County Council for fire engines using oil as fuel instead of coal.

In presence of four bishops and the clergy of the diocese the Rev. Provost Campbell was yesterday consecrated Bishop of Glasgow and Galloway.

Great excitement continues to prevail at Madrid as the Republican minority in the Chamber bitterly resent the action of the police in dispersing their demonstrations.

In the House of Commons yesterday Mr. Walter Long said he was prepared to consider, in the interests of public health, the matter of more stringent regulations regarding gipsies.

Mr. Pirie has intimated his intention of dealing in the House of Commons with the public utterances of the Chancellor of the Exchequer and other members of the Government on the fiscal question.

The Begum of Bhopal, who was detained at Medina through a trouble between rival sheiks, has arrived at Mecca. The Princess was met outside the town and was accorded a splendid reception.

William Henry Wilton, of Penryn, aged seventy-one, a prominent builder and undertaker, was found hanging from the bannisters in his house yesterday afternoon. He leaves a wife, but no children.

A fire broke out yesterday morning on the stage of the Paragon Theatre of Varieties, Mile End-road, one of the oldest and largest music-halls in London. It was overcome by the firemen belonging to the establishment.

Miss Frederica Bennett, a royal dressmaker, who was married at Kingston-on-Thames on Tuesday, was the recipient of a handsome wedding present from H.R.H. Princess Frederic of Hanover, who acted as her godmother.

The high wind in Vienna has caused serious injuries. An old man, of sixty-eight, was buried beneath a heap of debris, and several streets were closed to traffic on account of the danger from falling slates and chimneys.

Torrential rains have caused disastrous floods and much loss of life at Tripoli. Yesterday the water had reached the gates of the town, and whole districts were submerged. The number of victims has not yet been ascertained.

By the Berlin Bourse failure of the banking firm of Fritz Meyer, losses have been sustained of over £100,000. The Deutsche Bank has met the open engagements of over £1,000,000, and thus saved the market from another panic.

In New Jersey an effort is being made to assist people to take advantage of the privileges pertaining to Leap Year. A well-known justice of the peace states that he will without any charge marry all couples when the proposal comes from the bride.

At a conference held at the Westminster Guild-hall yesterday of county and borough authorities a letter was read from the Board of Trade stating that a select committee would be appointed to consider the adoption of the metric system. The conference arranged to tender evidence before the Committee.

Lord Balcarras, replying to Captain Norton in the House of Commons yesterday said that no steps had actually been taken for the erection of a statue of Queen Victoria in Westminster Hall. The matter was still under consideration. He regretted that it was impossible to make any definite statement on the subject.

Mr. E. Garcke, chairman of the Metropolitan Electric Tramways, yesterday complained that the London County Council, in the objections to their extensions, were adopting a dog in the manger attitude. They did not care how much the public was inconvenienced so long as they caused trouble to an enterprising company.

The Corporation of Glasgow pay £15,000 a year premium to a company which takes over all risks which the authorities incur from the running of their cars. So Glasgow, at any rate if it is prepared to stand by Mr. Justice Channell's judgment that municipal authorities are not liable for damages, can save quite a number of sispences.

"People who wantonly destroyed birds committed an offence both against God and man," declared Sir Edward Grey at the annual meeting of the Society for the Protection of Birds yesterday. Satisfaction was expressed at the passing by the Commons of a Bill to prevent bird-destruction, and sanctuaries for birds in public parks were advocated.

The late Miss Elizabeth Porter, of Halifax, has left £26,300 for charitable purposes, including £7,000 to Abbot's Ladies' Home, Halifax; £3,500 to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution; £3,000 to St. Jude's Church, Halifax; £2,000 to Halifax Infirmary; £1,000 each to various missionary societies, and £300 each to various philanthropic institutions.

The gross value of the estate of the Right Hon. Cecil John Rhodes has been sworn by the Earl of Rosebery, Earl Grey, Mr. Alfred Beit, and Mr. Bouchier Francis Hawkey, the acting executors of his will and codicils, to be £461,400 14s. 4d.

There is good reason to suppose, however, that this valuation does not include property abroad. The net value of Mr. Rhodes's personal estate is entered for probate at £169,893 8s. 1d.

At the matinee on Tuesday next at His Majesty's Theatre, in aid of the National Hospital for the Paralyzed and Epileptic, a most interesting programme will be given, including the first act of "Rebellious Susan," "The Ninth Valse," by

QUITE LIKE SOUTH AFRICA.

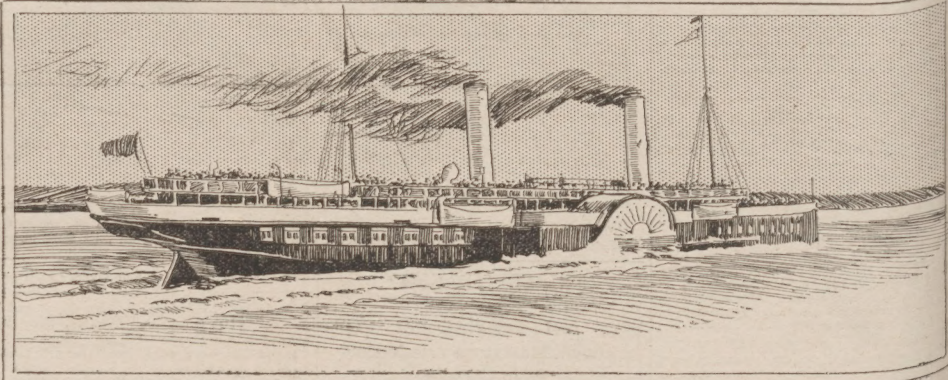


Many Russian ladies of influence are arranging to go to the theatre of war. Among them is Mlle. Kscheschinskaia, the most famous and accomplished of the dancers in the ballet at the Imperial Theatre, St. Petersburg.

Mr. Arthur Bouchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh, the Senate House scene from "Julius Caesar," a scene from "Much Ado About Nothing," and "A Pantomime Rehearsal." The programme has

down. While he lay on the floor the mother and son escaped from the room. Williams locked the door, and when the police arrived, accompanied by Dr. Miller, a local magis-

LONDON'S PET STEAMER SOLD.



La Marguerite, the famous excursion steamer which has plied for years between London, Margate, and the Continent, has been sold, and there is consternation among the holiday-making public, for she had grown to be almost an essential feature of London life.

been designed by Sir Lawrence Alma Tadema. The Princess of Wales and the Duchess of Albany will be present.

Another of a series of attempts to wreck trains on the Blyth and Tyne Railway took place yesterday near Jesmond, Newcastle. The obstruction on this occasion was a piece of iron placed across the rails, but, fortunately, an engine carried it away without much damage being done.

Cancer was described by Dr. Herbert Snow at the annual meeting of the Cancer Hospital yesterday as "the darkest Africa on the map of medicine." Present research schemes, he said, had utterly and miserably failed, and he advocated a World's Congress to consider the whole subject,

trate and medical practitioner, threatened to shoot anyone who ventured to enter the room. Several attempts were made to break in, and Williams fired four shots in all, one just missing his wife, while another barely grazed Dr. Miller's head. Eventually an entrance was effected, and after a struggle Williams was overpowered and locked up. Yesterday he was brought before the Barnsley magistrates and remanded.

Mr. David Hughes, who for over twenty years has carried the mails on foot from Llangollen to Vroncysyllte, yesterday entered upon an appointment at the Carnarvon Post Office. He has covered 86,000 miles, or nearly four times the distance round the world,

WEAK AUTOCRAT.

Striking Sketch of the Melancholy, Woman-Ruled Tsar.

"There is no more mysterious figure in Europe than the Tsar. His detractors declare him a melancholy, uxorious man, surrounded by a wall of detail, dominated by women, and impotent for good and evil. His admirers describe him as a man with a great mission for the advancement of the humanitarian idea which is struggling with militarism in every country in Europe."

Of these two theories which is the more correct? A writer in the "Fortnightly Review" discusses the question in a most interesting article. Discussing the influences of heredity on the present Tsar, he goes over the gruesome story of the house of Romanoff.

The Curse of the Romanoffs.

"The Tsar has inherited from his ancestors an accumulated burden of horror and sorrow that is more conducive to settled melancholy than to healthy judgment; and to fatalism and despair than to sobriety and cheerfulness."

His grandfather was assassinated while driving in the public street. His great-grandfather, Nicholas I., is believed in Russia to have committed suicide, overwhelmed with the Crimean disaster. The Emperor Paul was murdered in 1807. Catherine II., who would have been a minimal if fate had not made her Empress, is supposed to have been murdered. Ivan VI. was murdered; Peter II. was deposed.

Truly a record to imbue a man's character with melancholy. The Tsar's outlook on life is one of Oriental resignation. Those who meet him are struck with his "shrinking shyness and softly apprehensive, almost feminine sweetness." He is dignified, and his dignity is "the more noticeable because he is small in size and his voice is gentle and womanly."

His dignity was strikingly exhibited at his last meeting with the exuberant Kaiser. The Russian and German fleets had met in the Baltic.

"The Kaiser semaphored an effusive message to the Tsar from the upper bridge of the Hohenzollern. It was couched in the following terms: 'The Admiral of the Atlantic salutes the Admiral of the Pacific.' The Tsar was placed in a difficult position. If he accepted the implication the British Foreign Office might have something to say. The Tsar's reply was his own idea. He simply signalled—'Farewell.' The laconic refusal to the German Emperor went round the fleets of the world, and the 'Admiral of the Atlantic' will not forget the quiet snub."

Is He Brave?

The Tsar's visit to the Far East when he was Tsarevitch was marked by one very dramatic incident. A fanatic at Otsu, in Japan, attempted to assassinate him. The effect produced on the minds of the Russian people by this incident was not favourable to the Prince. His personal courage was suspected, and the Russians like a jovial lively ruler who can drink hard and love fighting.

On this subject the Crown Prince of Greece wrote an indiscreet letter to his father, and the contents were widely circulated. The Crown Prince used these words, which have become historical in Russia: "Then Nickie ran." For a long time the half-dissipated and contemptuous clans which form society in Russia repeated the words with shrugs of the shoulder. The suggestion of pusillanimity is cruelly unjust, but it has hindered the Emperor in his efforts for peace.

The Tsar does not excel in manly exercises though he is a "scorching" cyclist. He is not a good shot, and an English keeper on Lord Lonsdale's estate said he "didn't know enough to hold a gun straight nor to hit a bird." He is fond of

This map shows coloured to count

Clouds which Dim Peace and May at Deluge the W the Blood of Thous

Never was there a time when the universe more camp. On every side there of wars. Not even when whole of Europe into a battle look more oppressive, for a nation conflict is immensely wider ends of the earth.

Even the Far Eastern of considerable area, and has extended before peace is restored Russia nobody can tell. A vast nations should be engaged in every quarter of the globe aimed at us in India, in Australia, and in Canada, the likely to come about if the United States, which, disaster, almost as fratricidal U.S. With Us.

If the Armageddon of the been threatened so long we the United States would, if it be found on the same side American interests in China looked after, and the American very sorry to see either Russia increasing her power, whether any other.

A danger which is quite a the Far Eastern cloud is to East. Turkey and Bulgaria war in Macedonia. Turkey granting an opportunity such rule; and if Abdul Hamid revolt and for making light over Bulgaria, he will seize satisfaction.

So far he has been prevented would with them and with the Austria-Hungary. These try to insist upon his system of government in a badly in need of a scheme of reforms was accepted now that Russia has her again that he has any intention of

photography, and sometime composes melancholy verse.

The dread of assassination—a dread that even affected the adamant nerves of a man like Cromwell—weighs heavy on the Tsar. "The atmosphere of suspicion and gloom produced by the spectre of everyone at the Russian Court." The system of espionage is most elaborate, but sometimes the precautions are inadequate.

Last May it was noticed that a clock in the breakfast-room at Gatchina pointed to four minutes to nine for several consecutive minutes, although the mechanism was operating as usual. On the occasion it was found that a high explosive had been inserted in the clock.

AUTOCRAT.

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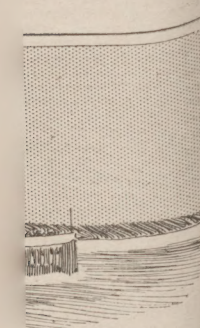
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THE WORLD IN ARMS—AN INSTRUCTIVE GLANCE-GUIDE.



This map shows at a glance in what a restless age we live. The territories coloured black belong to nations actually at war; those which are less heavily coloured to countries which are upon the brink of war; and the more lightly lined portions of the map to Powers which may quite conceivably be at war before long. The international situation is thus made clear in a moment.

Clouds which Dim the Horizon of Peace and May at Any Moment Deluge the World with the Blood of Tens of Thousands.

Never was there a time in the world's history when the universe more resembled an armed camp. On every side there are wars and rumours of wars. Not even when Napoleon turned the whole of Europe into a battleground was the outlook more oppressive, for now the field of possible conflict is immensely widened and reaches to the ends of the earth.

Even the Far Eastern outbreak covers a very considerable area, and how far that area may extend before peace is restored between Japan and Russia nobody can tell. A war in which the European nations should be engaged would be waged in every quarter of the globe. Blows could be aimed at us in India, in Australia, in South Africa, possibly even in Canada, though that would only be likely to come about if we were to fall out with the United States, which would be a hideous disaster, almost as fratricidal as civil war.

U.S. With Us.
If the Armageddon of the Powers which has been threatened so long were to break out now, the United States would, if they took a hand at all, be found on the same side as Britain and Japan. American interests in China are being very closely looked after, and the Americans will certainly be very sorry to see either Russia or Germany increasing their power, whether in that region or in any other.

A danger which is quite as near to Germany as the Far Eastern cloud is to be found in the Near East. Turkey and Bulgaria are on the verge of awaiting an opportunity such as this to crush the rule; and if Abdul Hamid can at the same time result and for making light of Turkish suzerainty over Bulgaria, he will seize the chance with grim satisfaction.

So far he has been prevented from dealing as he would with them and with his rebellious subjects, Austria-Hungary. These two Powers joined to insist upon his reforming the Turkish system of government in Macedonia, which certainly stood badly in need of amendment. Their scheme of reforms was accepted by the Sultan, and he promised again and again to carry it out. But now that Russia has her hands full no one believes that he has any intention of introducing any im-

provement at all, except such as can be made with field guns and bayonets.

It may be, of course, that Austria will pluck up spirit enough to act alone. But the Sultan knows full well what Austria's home troubles are—how her old Emperor is with difficulty keeping his Empire together even now, and how it is only his personal popularity and influence which hinder Hungary from declaring her independence on the one side, and the provinces which lie along the German border from accepting the German Emperor as their sovereign on the other; and all the disorderly Slav races from breaking away and making the attempt to settle their own destinies.

Even if Austria should be able to keep things at home quiet enough to leave her a free hand against Turkey, she would still have to reckon with the possibility that Germany might uphold the Sultan's plea to be allowed to do as he likes with his own. The Emperor William has encouraged the Sultan to look upon him as a friend, not as a matter of disinterested affection, but because Germany seeks various concessions in Turkish territory. German statesmen even have thoughts of peopling a large and fertile province in Asia Minor with the Kaiser's subjects and making it a German India upon a small scale.

Sultan and Kaiser.

If the Sultan, then, should appeal to Germany, it is quite likely that strong diplomatic pressure would be brought to bear upon Austria from Berlin, and it is possible even that events might lead to a Turko-German alliance in the field. The situation in Europe, therefore, is quite threatening enough, without taking into account the chance of other Powers being drawn into the Far Eastern fight.

As a matter of fact, the only nations which have no cause for anxiety are those which are making no history—the small countries like Switzerland and Sweden, who prosper quietly under the shadow of powerful neighbours. They have no ambitions, and do not compete for anything which has to be fought for save with the weapons of peace. Switzerland, for example, would like to keep all the tourists to herself, but she does not aim at this by going to war. She makes better paths up her mountains and puts a seat wherever there is a good view, and the merry Switzers improve their hotels.

If all nations sought merely such commercial advantages the world could disarm to-morrow. It is because so many Powers are seeking at the same moment to play leading parts in the world's history that the armaments of the present day are so huge and the prospect is so disquieting.

Speaking yesterday at the annual meeting of the Metropolitan Electric Tramways Co., Mr. E. Garcke foreshadowed the gradual substitution of electric traction for horse-power in the numerous companies in which they held shares, and said that by the coming summer they hoped to control twenty miles of line worked on the overhead system.

CANNIBAL KING.

A White Man Who is Chief of the Papuans in New Guinea.

Instances have occurred in fiction, and even in fact, of missionaries or travellers who, to save their lives, have consented to become members of a tribe of savages who would otherwise have killed them. But seldom, if ever, has a white man consented of his own free will to become not only a member, but actually the chief of a cannibal tribe.

Yet, in New Guinea, at the present moment, an Englishman is the "chief of chiefs" of a black and savage tribe of Papuans and original cannibals. The man in question, the Rev. W. E. Bromilaw, after doing service with the Wesleyan Mission in the Fiji Islands, went out to New Guinea about eleven years ago. When he had been out six years the event occurred which led to his becoming the chief of the tribe.

An old and distinguished chief fell ill, and the native medicine men failed to improve his condition. When at death's door—death comes rapidly in those latitudes—someone suggested the missionary. He was immediately summoned, and, knowing, as all missionaries do, a good deal about medicine, he succeeded in saving the man's life. To show his intense gratitude the chief offered to make Mr. Bromilaw a member of the tribe, and to admit him into a certain secret society, the membership of which carried many privileges.

The missionary accepted the honour, and when, a short time ago, the old chief died, Mr. Bromilaw was chosen to succeed him.

The Rev. F. W. Walker, who has just come to London, after fourteen years in New Guinea, knows Mr. Bromilaw personally, and assured a *Daily Illustrated Mirror* representative that the "chief" was in good health and perfectly contented with his romantic position.

Mr. Walker emphasised the fact that the society in question is social. It is in no sense religious, and any suggestion that Mr. Bromilaw has accepted the beliefs of the people over whom he reigns is utterly without foundation.

COGERS' HALL.

This evening Ye Antient Society of Cogers celebrates its 150th anniversary. The Hon. Matthew White Ridley, M.P., will open the debate at the Royal Bridewell Hospital, and the "Grand" and Committee will receive beforehand. Convivial in sound, serious in sense, is the time-honoured name of Coger, derived from the society's motto, "Cogito, ergo sum."

The White Bear (modernised into St. Bride's Tavern), in Bride-lane, was the Cogers' first home; later they moved to the Blue Posts, in Shoe-lane;

and the brethren of to-day meet every Saturday at Cogers' Hall, in Salisbury-square.

Duinness has ever been taboo at Cogers' Hall, and eloquence has flourished in the persons of such long-ago worthies as Waithman, of Obelisk fame, "Squinting Jack Wilkes," Daniel O'Connell, and Lord Brougham, and such latter-day lights as Dickens, George Augustus Sala, and John Sangster. In the 40,000 odd meetings which have united the Cogers in fervid debate since their foundation, every public question, every political creed, which has agitated the street for the past century and a half has been discussed in friendly wise.

The father of the Cogers, the member who looks back on forty-three years of debates, bears witness that the Coger of to-day falls no whit behind his predecessors for wit and oratory.

If one is to believe "Charles the Waiter," Dickens found the prototypes of Pickwick and half his gallery of immortals amongst his Coger contemporaries.

Good stories crowd the Coger records. There is one of the late George Augustus Sala, who, after delivering himself of a somewhat halting speech, was thus discomfited by a fellow-member saying, "Mr. Sala's speech smacks so strongly of the nursery that I feel certain were he turn out his pockets we should find a choice collection of tops, marbles, string, sweetstuffs, and other articles precious to the juvenile mind." The house, delighted, called on Sala to turn out his pockets. "A perfect yell went up when a small paper bag, on being opened, proved to contain toffee. Sala's first wife had a great liking for sweets, hence his possessing the toffee."

KING VISITS HORSE SHOW.

Great crowds thronged the Agricultural Hall yesterday, when the King visited the Shire Horse Show, and loud cheers were raised in all parts of the building as soon as his Majesty was recognised. Dressed in a tight-fitting black overcoat, with velvet collar, chocolate-coloured tie, and the "Frenchiest" of silk hats, the King appeared to be in the gayest spirits, and chatted brightly with Prince Waldeck-Pyrmont, who accompanied him. The King sent six exhibits, of which four were awarded prizes.

MAN OF MYSTERY.

The Bangor magistrates have twice remanded a mysterious Asiatic, who is deaf and dumb, and can neither read nor write.

He fell into the hands of the police in consequence of an attack which he made on a man on a lonely road near Bangor.

Every effort has been made by the police to trace his nationality, but not the slightest advance has been made, and the man is a complete mystery.

Judging by the evolutions he frequently performs in the presence of the police, he has been a soldier, presumably in Abyssinia, and he indulges in rather a curious dance at times. If the word Russia is shown him he makes gestures indicative of the greatest horror.

YESTERDAY'S LAW AND POLICE.

THE CAPTAIN'S DIVORCE PLOT.

Decree Nisi Rescinded and Documents in the Case Impounded.

In the Divorce Division yesterday Sir Francis Jeune and a common jury concluded the hearing of the case of Nares v. Nares and Jones, in which the King's Proctor intervened to prevent the decree nisi granted to the plaintiff, Captain Nares, of the Elder Dempster Line, being made absolute. At the original hearing the plaintiff brought his petition on the ground of the alleged misconduct of his wife with a Liverpool railway employee named Thomas Jones.

The present intervention on the part of the King's Proctor has been supported by a sensational story of a conspiracy on the part of Captain Nares to secure the divorce. The case at the time was undefended, and a decree nisi was granted.

The President yesterday, in directing the jury, said that there was "gross perjury" committed on one side or the other. The sum and substance of the case was whether there had been collusion between the parties, whether it was a trumped-up petition, and whether the evidence given was brought about by the machinations of the husband. As to the motive of the petitioner, that need not be inquired into, but there was no doubt that he was led for a dishonest purpose.

One of the questions the jury had to determine was whether Jones (the co-respondent) was a party as to what was alleged to be "an abominable conspiracy."

The primary question in the case was whether the petitioner had behaved honestly in this matter, or whether he had trumped up a case for the purpose of getting a divorce.

After an absence of three-quarters of an hour, the jury found that at the hearing of the divorce suit material facts were not brought before the court, and that the decree nisi had been obtained by the collusion of the petitioner with the respondent and the co-respondent.

His Lordship accordingly rescinded the decree nisi, and dismissed the petition, with costs.

Upon the application of Mr. Rawlinson, K.C. (who appeared for the King's Proctor), all the documents in the case were ordered to be impounded.

FOUND LIFE INSUPPORTABLE.

The Sad Circumstances of Miss Lovell's Death.

The inquest on Miss Helen Lovell, whose body was recovered from the pond at Spyre Park House, Chippingham, on Tuesday, was held yesterday.

Mr. Charles King Francis, Metropolitan Police magistrate, identified the deceased lady as his sister-in-law. Her father was a retired officer of the Life Guards, living at Brockenhurst, New Forest. She had recently been in bad health, having undergone an operation. Since then she had not been the same. A man to whom she was engaged to be married died about four years ago, and she had been ill ever since.

Captain John Spicer, at whose house Miss Lovell had been staying, was also of opinion that she appeared very delicate, especially of late. She had a weak heart. When Miss Lovell went out and did not return to dress for dinner search parties were organised. Subsequently his wife found a letter addressed to her in a drawer.

The letter merely said: "When you read this I shall be dead." There were also a few lines of farewell, and a remark that her hostess was her best friend, and that life had become insupportable. Not thinking that it was very important, witness had destroyed the note. The body of Miss Lovell was subsequently found.

The Heroine of a Novel?

The coroner, in directing the jury to return a verdict of suicide during temporary insanity, said he felt sure that if Captain Spicer had had time to consider he would have preserved the letter left by Miss Lovell. As a valuable piece of evidence it would have removed any suspicion of foul play. Verdict accordingly.

It is not generally known that either Miss Lovell or her sister (Mrs. Francis) was the original of Miss Bradon's "Vixen."

Miss Bradon (Mrs. Maxwell) had a hunting lodge in the New Forest, and often rode to hounds with Colonel Lovell's pack of staghounds. Miss Lovell acted on occasion as whip to her father.

SCENE IN A FLAT.

Yesterday at the London Sheriff's Court a jury were called upon to assess damages in the case of Douglas v. Gross, remitted from the High Court, where judgment had gone by default.

Miss Douglas lived in Russell-mansions, Great Coram-street, and was an entire stranger to the defendant, Mr. Louis Gross. It appeared defendant was acquainted with a lady who had a flat in the same building where the plaintiff resided. One night he was at the mansions, and, being in an intoxicated condition, he mistook the plaintiff for someone else, and assaulted her in a most brutal manner. Subsequently he called to express his sorrow, and offered to pay the doctor's bill and make some compensation, but this promise he had not kept. The jury awarded plaintiff 10 guineas.

FRAUDS ON WEST END TRADESMEN.

Yesterday at Clerkenwell Sessions Mary Kate Spencer, 55, known also as "Madame Claire," dressmaker, and Margaret Keating, 47, her managers, pleaded guilty to fraudulently obtaining goods worth 42s. from West End tradesmen.

Spencer was said by the police to have had a remarkable career. Mr. McConnell said he could find no mitigating circumstances in Spencer's case, and Keating had lent herself too willingly to the fraud. He took into consideration that both had been in prison for two months, and sentenced Spencer to eleven and Keating five months' imprisonment in the second division.

SENTIMENTAL THEOLOGY.

The Delightful Relaxation of Hunting Moths in the Dusk of a Summer Evening.

Mr. Justice Wills' Court yesterday once again abandoned itself to the analysis of sentimental theology, that is to say, theology the study of which is agreeably relieved by kisses.

Since the court last met on Friday, the fame of Mr. Arthur Bertram Lucy, the theological giant fresh from Marlborough College, and of his romantic whistlings and kissings, has been admirably canvassed in many a boudoir. Accordingly, when the Judge and special jury again took their seats yesterday they found as assessors on the back benches of the court a multitude of charming and charmingly-dressed young ladies.

"Only nineteen years of age," they whispered, "and he doesn't look even that. His hair parted in the middle just suits him. I wonder how he gets his complexion, and doesn't he look athletic, too? His eyes are just lovely. He will make a perfect curate."

The theological object of all this admiration was standing in the witness-box waiting for a renewal of the cross-examining onslaught of Dr. Blake Odgers, K.C., at the mere shake of whose whiskers the stoutest of cross-examinees tremble.

Mr. Lucy had already explained to the Court that, having incurred the wrath of Mr. E. H. Wilkins, of Richmond Lodge, Croydon, for kissing Miss May Wilkins, during an interval snatched



MR. ARTHUR BERTRAM LUCY,

who, at the age of nineteen, has caused considerable disquietude in the family of Mr. Wilkins, of Croydon. He has kissed one daughter, made love to another, and, Mr. Wilkins says, been too attentive to Mrs. Wilkins.

from the study of "Paley's Evidences," and for paying, what Mr. Wilkins said, was too much attention to Mrs. Wilkins, he had felt himself compelled in the interests of his theological career to bring a libel action.

Dr. Blake Odgers, again facing Mr. Lucy, put several stern questions about comparatively unimportant matters before he arrived at the subject dear to the heart of everyone present—i.e., sentimental theology. To elucidate his first important point it should be mentioned that Mr. Lucy had said that after an attack of chicken-pox he had been compelled to seek renewed health in the West Indies. He had previously been forbidden Richmond Lodge. While he was away Mrs. Wilkins also left her home, and Mr. Lucy received the following billet doux from Miss Cecily Wilkins, to whom he had transferred his affections from her sister May. Dr. Blake Odgers read that billet doux.

Still Reading for the Church.

"I am now in mother's room," it ran. "I like it awfully. I can look out of the window and wave."

Mr. Justice Wills: And what? Wait?

After some prolonged laughter it was explained to his Lordship that Cecily intended to convey that she would be in a position to wait tender greetings to the excluded theologian, if he came below her window on his return to England by a waving of her hand.

Mr. Lucy did come below the window. He rode on his bicycle under the window up and down the street, and Dr. Blake Odgers put it to him that he lifted a love-lorn gaze upwards. This soft impeachment Mr. Lucy did not deny.

Dr. Blake Odgers: Are you still reading for Holy orders?

Mr. Lucy (with a far-off look in his eyes): I am. It came as no surprise to the young ladies at the back of the court when Mr. Lucy stated that he suffered from "nerves." However graceful and athletic a future curate may be, he should suffer from "nerves" occasionally. It was because he suffered from "nerves," confessed Mr. Lucy, that he was ordered to Croydon.

Dr. Blake Odgers (with ill-disguised incredulity): Yes, you are a nervous lad.

Mr. Lucy (hardly nervously): Yes, I am.

Mr. Justice Wills (very calmly): I never heard that Croydon was a health resort.

Mr. Chambers, K.C. (indignantly): My lord, it has the lowest death-rate in the United Kingdom.

From nerves the discussion changed to a much more delightful subject, viz., kissing. Before Mr. Lucy studied theology at Croydon he studied theology at Ashurst, a village near Tunbridge Wells.

Why did you leave Ashurst? asked Dr. Blake Odgers.

"It was rather quiet," replied Mr. Lucy. Dr. Blake Odgers: I see; there were no young ladies to kiss. (A flutter of sympathy at the back of the court.)

Mr. Lucy (with dignity): I did not refer to that.

Dr. Blake Odgers at once apologised, "Wait



MRS. WILKINS, Who denies that she was included in the attentions which Mr. Lucy certainly paid to her two daughters.

a minute," he said, "there were some young ladies to kiss?"

"It was not lively enough," replied Mr. Lucy, without committing himself either way.

The next change of subject was from kisses to photography. Mr. Lucy admitted, with hesitating modesty, that Mrs. Wilkins had once photographed him standing in his surplice at the lectern in St. James's Church, Croydon, where on Sun-



MR. WILKINS

Merely ejected to Mr. Lucy, the theological student, kissing his daughter May, but when he concluded that Mr. Lucy was also unduly attentive to Mrs. Wilkins, he involved himself in an action for libel and slander.

days he read the lessons. But the photo was not taken on Sunday.

From sentimental photography the discussion once again returned to kissing. Dr. Blake Odgers had finished his cross-examination, and it was Mr. Chambers' turn to probe that pleasant mystery. "Now, tell us," he said, generally, "exactly what happened when you kissed May in the back garden."

At once there was complete silence in court. The charming young ladies on the back benches held their breath.

Mr. Lucy began his answer in poetical rhythm: "In summer, when the days are long," he said, "we used all to go into the back garden in the evening. We were all moth hunting one evening, Mr. Wilkins, Mrs. Wilkins, May, Cicely, the sons, and myself. It was a bit dark, and I admit that I took the opportunity to kiss May"—(sensation at the back of the court)—"but we were all 'mothing,' concluded Mr. Lucy, simply.

"I suppose that is what they call pastoral theology," whispered one of the charming young ladies at the back of the court.

After Mr. Lucy had left the witness-box the sentimental touch was lost to the proceedings. Mr. Lucy's father gave evidence, and Mrs. Wilkins was called to deny the insinuations against her. But she was not asked to whistle like she whistled to Mr. Lucy.

The last witness of the day was Mr. Wilkins, who said that he is an insurance broker, and explained how strongly he disapproves of sentimental theology. His story was not concluded when the Court adjourned.

THE OLD, OLD STORY.

Depravity of Man and the Trustfulness of Woman.

At the London Sheriff's Court yesterday an action was heard in which Miss Violet Warne, of Leighton-road, Kenilworth Town, sought to recover damages from William John Taylor for breach of promise of marriage. The defendant did not appear.

Mr. Nield, for the plaintiff, said this was the old story of the depravity of man and the trustfulness of woman. In 1898 plaintiff, the daughter of a gardener, was a nurse at Finchley. She attracted the notice of the defendant, who was a coachman. He was somewhat diffident at first in approaching her, with the natural modesty of man; but ultimately he summoned up courage to speak, and obtained permission to walk with her. In July of 1902 he sought the consent of her father to their marriage. This consent was given, and the plaintiff gave up her employment as a nurse and returned to her father's house to prepare for the wedding, which was fixed for September.

Before then, however, defendant went to Southampton, and for some reason or other he never ampted, and in an appearance at the wedding. The air of Southampton was relaxing, and it might be that it had had some effect on the defendant. Like so many other worthless swains it appeared that he was now courting a barmaid. Counsel referred to two letters which the plaintiff had received from the defendant. One of them he subscribed "From your loving and affectionate sweetheart, Jack."

Plaintiff said she did not know what defendant's wages were, the first knew him.

The Under-Sheriff: I thought there was one of the first questions asked! (Laughter.)

Mr. Nield: Did you know what provision he could make for your support? (No answer.)

The Under-Sheriff: All on trust. (Renewed laughter.)

The jury awarded the plaintiff £40.

SCHOOLGIRL COMMITS SUICIDE.

The suicide of a schoolgirl, aged eleven years, named Sarah Evans, has been investigated by the Blackburn coroner.

After her parents had left home she told a younger sister to lock up the house, and she then left. Later in the day her body was found in the canal.

A witness deposed to seeing the child deliberately jump into the water. She sank in three minutes before assistance could be got.

The coroner said it was the most extraordinary case he had ever met with. The child had taken umbrage at being sent to bed, but it was the first time he had known a girl so young to take her own life.

A verdict of Suicide whilst of unsound mind was returned.

LEISURELY LONDON.

In the King's Bench Division yesterday the hearing was resumed of the action brought by Mrs. Gertrude Hart, of Harley-street, W., against the London General Omnibus Co. and Messrs. Pontifex and Co., to recover damages for personal injuries sustained in a Holborn collision.

Asked if the "bus on which plaintiff was riding was going fast, her sister stated she was unable to say. She came from Glasgow, and "buses and everything else in London seemed to her to go very slowly. (Laughter.)

The case was again adjourned.

ON NEUTRAL TERRITORY.

At Bow-street Police Court yesterday an application was made for a summons against the National Skating Palace, Limited, in respect of a chimney said to be a nuisance.

The premises are within the area of the Metropolitan borough-street Court, and the magistrate said principals there having to a very extent raised the question, it was thought advisable for the application to be made at Bow-street.

THE BRIEF BAG.

John Brown, who requested a Greenwich police man to hold a lamp-post until he went past as he kept moving, has been fined ten shillings.

The City coroner, at an inquest yesterday called attention to the fact that fatal life accidents in the City appeared to be on the increase.

Robert Henry Waterlow Hanna, a solicitor of Gray's Inn-place, was committed for trial by Bow-street magistrate yesterday on a serious charge of improper conduct. Bail was allowed.

A labourer, who paraded the streets of Kingston-on-Thames at one o'clock in the morning shouting at the top of his voice that he wanted lodgings, was fined 5s. by the magistrates yesterday.

Miss E. Maclaren, of Hammersmith, was awarded £150 damages in the London Sheriff's Court yesterday against Albert Hittings, living at Greenwich, for breach of promise of marriage.

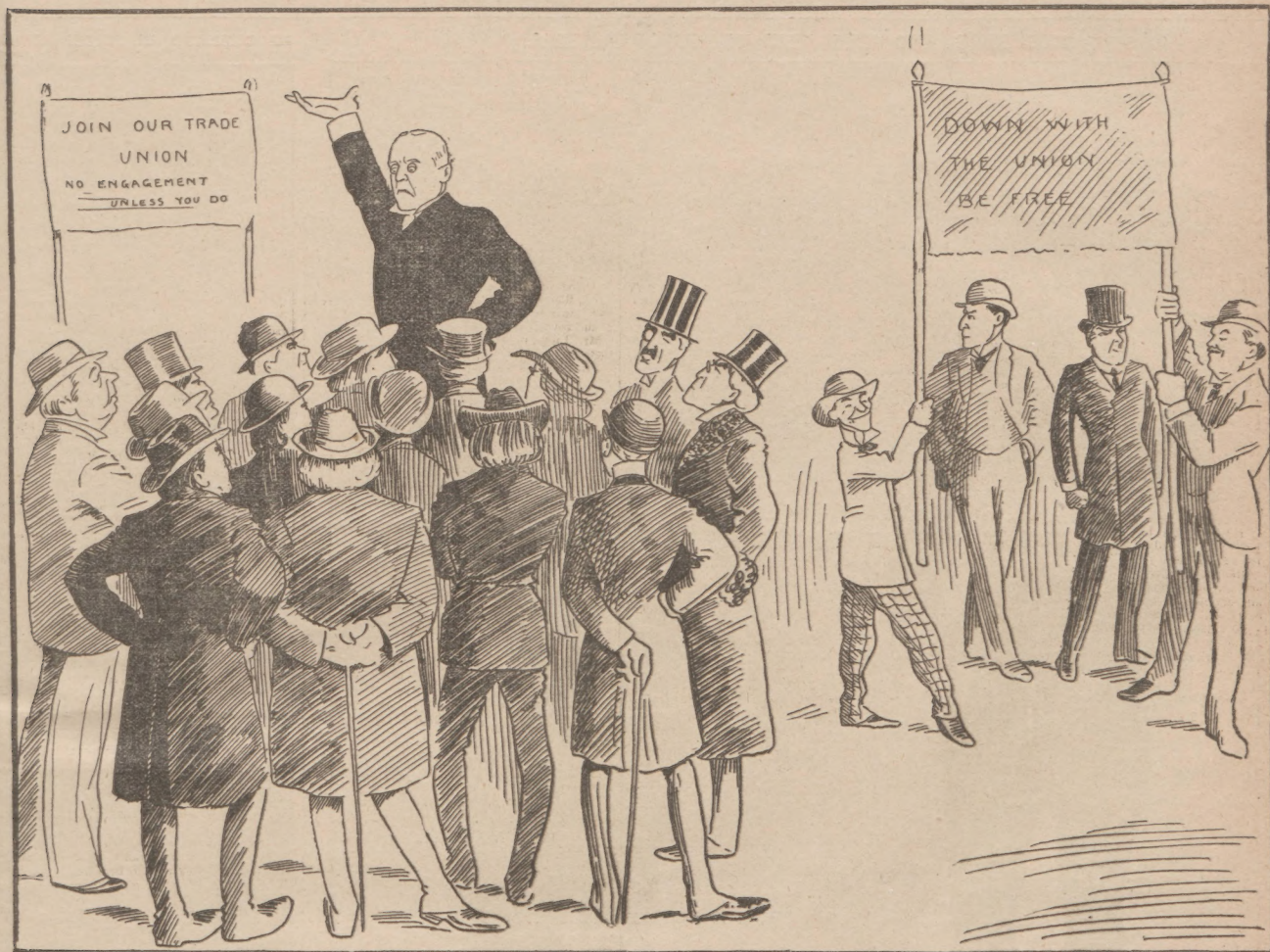
During the hearing of Tuesday's charges at the Thames Police Court, Mr. Mead, the presiding magistrate, was taken ill and removed to his residence at Blackheath. Yesterday his place was taken by Mr. Dickinson.

The West London magistrate has fined Henry Cann, who assumed the rôle of protector to Xmas Beatty in the Justices' Room at Hammersmith Town Hall, forty shillings for assaulting a policeman.

Francis Williamson, an architect, who had been in employment of the Woolwich Borough Council, was sentenced to five months' imprisonment in the second division, at Clerkenwell Sessions, yesterday for obtaining mathematical instruments by fraud.

The discussion of Gladstone is frequently a source of dispute in the Borough, according to a complaint which appeared at Southwark Police Court yesterday to prosecute a man who had, it was alleged, hit aologist or the late statesman over the head with an umbrella.

THE THREATENED ACTORS' TRADE UNION.



From the report of the Actors' Association meeting it appeared that an Actors' Trade Union was to be formed. Our artist at once began to imagine this sort of thing. It seems, however, that his fear was groundless. We explain elsewhere what it is the actors really want.

AMUSEMENTS.

HAYMARKET. TO-NIGHT, at 9.
JOSEPH ENTANGLED. By Henry Arthur Jones.
Preceded at 8.20 by THE WIDOW WOOD.
MATINEE EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, 2.30.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.
Proprietor and Manager, Mr. TREE.
TO-NIGHT and EVERY EVENING at 8.15.
THE DARLING OF THE GODS.
By David Belasco and John Luther Long.

MATINEE EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, 2.15.
Box Office (Mr. Watts) open daily 10 to 10.

IMPERIAL THEATRE, WESTMINSTER.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. LEWIS WALLER.
TO-NIGHT and EVERY EVENING at 8.20.
A Version of Victor Hugo's "Roy Blas," entitled
A QUEEN'S ROMANCE.
Roy Blas. ... Mr. LEWIS WALLER.
The Queen of Spain. ... Mr. PATRICK CAMPBELL.

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Box Office open 10 to 10. Tel. 5195, Gerrard.

ST. JAMES'S. Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER.
Will appear every evening at 8.20, in
OLD HEIDELBERG.

MATINEE EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, 2.15.
POLYTECHNIC POPULAR ENTERTAINMENT.

QUEEN'S HALL, SATURDAY NEXT, at 7.45.
Vocalists include Percival Allen, Lucy Clarke, Charles
Sunder. Novelties include Thought-Reading, Seance,
Alfred Capper. Humorous Monologues, Fred Frampton.
Numbered reserved seats, 2s. 6d., 1s. 6d., 1s., obtainable 509,
Rugby-street. Admission 5s. 6d.

MR. QUENTON ASHLYN ("The New Hu-
mour") will tour this summer with his Puritan Maidens
in a high-class Humorous Entertainment. For dates apply
64, St. Helen's Gardens, W.

PERSONAL.

WANTED to purchase, volumes of the "Weekly Dispatch,"
for each year from 1891 to 1898 inclusive, and for the
years 1899, 70, and 71.—Address Mr. "Daily Mail" Office,
Carnegie House, E.C.

URGENT APPEAL. Will anyone who saw Hospital Nurse
fall off tram at Shepherd's Bush Library, midnight,
February 11th, as a favour, communicate with Miss Bell,
34, Linsinger?

LEAP YEAR—LATEST SENSATION.
Ladies who desire to please Gentlemen should forth-
with obtain the perfect, instantaneous, metal Moustache
Trainer sample, in case (with six wondrous postcards, 1s. 1d.,
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(Patented), 11, Queen Victoria-street, London, E.C.

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The Daily Illustrated Mirror.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1904.

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THINKING IN TENS.

Many people, when they read that the House of Lords had approved of a Bill for introducing the metric system into this country, must have asked themselves—What is the metric system, and why should we adopt it here, and what difference would it make? Well, in a few words, the metric system would make it very much easier for us to calculate weights and distances. At present, if we want to discover how many ounces there are in half a pound of a particular substance, we have first of all to find out whether it is sold by avoirdupois, or troy, or apothecaries' weight. Next, we must recollect how many ounces there are in a pound, and then we do our sum in division.

An equally elaborate process must be gone through before we can settle how many feet or inches there are in half a mile, or how many gills go to make a gallon. Now the metric system simplifies all such sums very much indeed. In fact, it makes business transactions of all kinds as much easier as the decimal system of money makes calculations in coin of the realm. Everyone can multiply or divide by ten, and that is really all that the decimal system of money and the metric system of weights and measures require one to do. Nobody who has added up in foreign money can be blind to its advantages so far as quick and easy calculation is concerned, and the fact that every European nation, save Britain and Russia, prefers to think in tens ought alone to prove the convenience of the system it is proposed to make compulsory in this country within two years.

DIFFICULTY OF DIVORCE.

The close yesterday of the remarkable case in which a sea-captain's divorce was rescinded because it was proved that he had got up a bogus case against his innocent wife suggests once more the question whether it would be wise to make divorce an easier matter. At

present, however badly a husband and wife may get on together, they cannot free themselves from the fetters of matrimony unless one of them breaks a commandment. Nor can they procure a divorce even then if it can be shown that the commandment was broken for this purpose, or that they agreed between themselves upon a plan for getting their marriage dissolved.

To make divorce as simple a matter as getting married would never do. Upon that almost everyone is agreed. But there are a great many people who think that, when a man and a woman have tried to live happily together and utterly failed, they should not be bound together against their wills for the term of their natural life. Some change in the direction of removing this hardship might well be made without going so far as Lord Russell's plan, which would enable any dissatisfied husband or wife to get a divorce in the nearest county court. No good purpose can be served by forcing a man to pass his life with an incurably drunken woman, or a woman to remain in subjection to a brutal ruffian who habitually ill-treats her. To give relief in such cases, or even in cases of confirmed "incompatibility of temper," would not make marriage less sacred, but more.

BREAKFAST TABLE TALK.

The fourth Test Match begins to-morrow (Friday). Each side hopes that it will prove to be an unlucky day for the other.

It is rumoured that M. Witte will be recalled to the Russian Ministry of Finance. The Tsar is beginning to find out that it is a bad thing to lose one's Wittes.

Mr. Bruce Ismay, of White Star fame, is the new head of the American Shipping Trust. The Yankees are beginning to find out that it needs a Britisher to make the concern go.

The Russian troopships are on their way back from Port Said to Sebastopol, the voyage to the Far East being abandoned as too perilous. The troops are, of course, in transports.

A French soldier in Tonkin tied a rope to the end of a goods train, and, putting his head in a noose at the other end of the rope awaited his doom. A desperate wretch once tried a similar experiment with a South-Eastern express, but in that case the rope became rotten with exposure to the weather before the train started, and the suicide

achieved the wished-for end by running after the train and battering his head against the brake van.

The formation of a fourth Siberian Army Corps is said to have been decided upon by the Russian military authorities. Mr. Brodrick's methods of paper mobilisation are being closely studied.

It is reported in Paris that France has purchased the whole Chilean Navy on behalf of Russia. The reason Russia did not buy it herself is that it would not have been as good a sensation for the Paris papers.

The offer of £20 in prizes to lock-keepers by the Thames Conservancy for the best-kept gardens is a good notion borrowed from the railway companies. Most of the lock-keepers have decided to grow water-lilies.

A young man who was knocked down by the motor-car of the King of the Belgians is stated to be bringing an action for damages against the Monarch. Since the Congo revelations the King has been so much run down in the Press that he evidently wanted to get a bit of his own back.

According to the "New York Herald," Mr. Brady, a theatrical manager, lost 85,000 dollars in a game of poker, but subsequently won back 75,000. This left him with a paltry deficit of 10,000 dollars, and the company felt that the evening had been wasted. It may be added that some poker stories are almost too stiff to swallow.

Tattooing, especially in Japanese designs, is becoming more fashionable than ever, but we need not share the fear expressed by a contemporary that clothes will be reduced to a minimum in order to show off the ornamentation. Women lead the way in fashion, and no really smart person would appear in the same set of tattooing twice in the same season. When tattooing can be changed like frocks it will be time to tremble.

The Russian military authorities are displaying great literary ability. Their eloquence is of a high order, and they put their proclamations to press promptly. Their publishing arrangements are excellent, and they know how to sub-edit. Their choice of type shows that they have the true journalistic instinct. Their proclamations would be more effective if they were illustrated with half-tone engravings, but of course that cannot be done all at once. They certainly edit the war in a masterly manner. The Japanese are not such good publishers; they waste too much time in fighting.

THE GUARANTEED CIRCULATION OF "THE DAILY ILLUSTRATED"

THE KING AND THE NEW INSPECTOR-GENERAL.



Things are changing rapidly in the Army. The new position of Inspector-General has been created, and the Duke of Connaught, a younger brother of the King, has received the appointment. Here are both the King and the Duke in uniform. [Gregory.]

TO COMMAND IN SOUTH AFRICA.



Major-General Sir H. Hildyard, K.C.B., has been appointed Commander-in-Chief in South Africa. During the war he commanded the 2nd Brigade in 1899-1900, and the 5th Division in 1900-1901. [Knight.]



LADY MURIEL GORDON-LENNOX, who has just become engaged to Mr. William Beckwith, of the Coldstream Guards, is considered to be one of the most beautiful women in society. [Lafayette.]



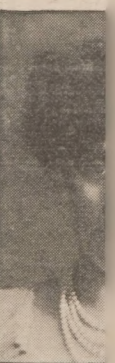
Mr. Okura, a rich Japanese merchant, has offered to sell his valuable collection of Japanese and Chinese art treasures for the benefit of the Japanese war fund. The collection has taken thirty years to make, and is unique.



This Russian submarine, the Petre Kochka, is the invention of two Russian lieutenants, and possesses several useful features. It is made in nine sections, which can be taken apart, and its two torpedoes are carried outside. It is intended to send it, in its several sections, to the Far East by the Siberian railway. [Cribb.]



In places and terrible



the wife of the Vic centre of social season. The socc [Photo]



MAJOR who is chief of the play an important should best

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SOUTH AFRICA.

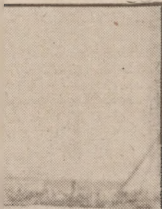
ON THE WAY TO THE FRONT.



yard, K.C.B., has been ap-
if in South Africa. During
e 2nd Brigade in 1899-1900.
ision in 1900-1901. [Knight]



GORDON-LENNOX,
engaged to Mr. William
dstream Guards, is con-
e most beautiful women
ociety. [Lafayette]



eful features. It is
nd it, in its several
[Cribb]



In places on the Siberian railway where the line has broken down the difficulties of hurrying men to the theatre of war are greatly increased by the snow and terrible cold. The officers move forward in small pony sledges, but the troops are obliged to do the best they can on foot, a slow and often fatal proceeding.



LADY DUDLEY,
the wife of the Viceroy of Ireland, who has been the
centre of social life in Dublin during the Irish
season. The second Viceregal Drawing-room was
held last night. [Lafayette]



MAJOR-GENERAL PFLUG,
who is chief of the Military Staff at Port Arthur, will
play an important part in the war if the Japanese
should besiege the Russian stronghold.

THE LIGHTER SIDE OF JAPAN.



Though the Japanese have shown that as a nation they are capable of attending to the serious business of life, they are none the less—especially the women—addicted to playing games. One of the most popular among Japanese games is played with a long sash, on which a large ring is suspended.

THE PATH OF THE PRODIGAL.

A Story of the "Never-Never Land."

By Wilson Barrett,

who is appearing this week at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, and will appear next week at the King's Theatre, Hammer-smith.

CHAPTER XXXVI. (continued).

For a moment Jack could not speak. All was forgotten but that great, glorious fact, that she was not to marry Lord Thorland. What relief, what happiness! In as firm a tone as he could muster, he asked, "Why?"

"I do not love him," Sibyl replied simply. "He's a splendid fellow," said Jack, all the more enthusiastically now that Sibyl had refused him. "But what are you unhappy about?" This was asked with deep anxiety. He dreaded her answer. It came slowly and sadly from her lips.

"Yesterday you told me that you had never loved, and had never married. But, Jack, I heard what that woman said."

Jack stood as with an ague for a moment, then, with all his nerves a-tingle with fear, he said, very quietly, "What did you hear?"

Sibyl was holding on very tight to the back of a chair. She, too, was trembling, but she answered, all too distinctly: "I heard her say she was—Mrs. John Landale."

So she had heard that, after all. The horrible secret was out, so far as Sal was concerned. Jack could not speak. He felt stunned and dazed. After a moment, Sibyl asked, quietly: "Have you nothing to say, Jack?"

"Nothing."

Naturally, Sibyl interpreted this as an avowal that Sal was his wife. Poor girl, she knew not what the thought was so horrible to her. But how horrible—how unbearable it was. Almost voiceless, she whispered: "Then—it is true?"

True that Sal was his wife? No, thank goodness. Not quite so terrible as that; and yet he dare not say so. He could only stammer: "She is Mrs. John Landale."

Sibyl sank into a chair and buried her face in her hands. For some time there was a dead silence in the room. The clock ticked out the moments on the mantel-piece, but their hearts beat almost as

very long, but we have loved you—mother and I—mother, all your life; I, since I can remember—while you were away from us. And now that you are with us that love has deepened, strengthened, and our whole souls are bound up in you. Jack—dear Jack—for my sake, for our dear mother's sake, trust us. If you have sinned we will help you to atone. If you are suffering we will suffer with you. Only trust us, do Jack, do!"

"Trust you; trust the dear mother. With all I have. With my life here and hereafter. With my soul and my will, a power above my power, forcing me, guiding me, telling me that all this wrong can be righted if you will but let me help you, Jack. You must—you shall." Some strange feeling, she knew not what, held her in control. It forced her to approach Jack still nearer and to hold him close to her as she said, passionately, "I will know—you shall not wreck our lives by this silence. You shall tell me."

"Oh, stop, Sibyl—for mercy's sake, stop!"

"I will not, Jack. I cannot. I am urged on to this in spite of myself. The whole of me is calling for the whole of you to reveal yourself. There is a will beyond my will, a power above my power, forcing me, guiding me, telling me that all this wrong can be righted if you will but let me help you, Jack. You must—you shall." Some strange feeling, she knew not what, held her in control. It forced her to approach Jack still nearer and to hold him close to her as she said, passionately, "I will know—you shall not wreck our lives by this silence. You shall tell me."

"Heaven help me and guide me. What am I to do?" Lady Walgrove, entering the room just then, heard him.

"Jack!" she said, in horror and alarm. "Dear Jack, what is the matter? Sibyl, dear, what is it?"

Jack, taking her in his arms, tried to comfort her. "There, there, do not worry, I have been unwell. Had a bit of a shock. But it mustn't trouble you, dear."

"Not trouble me. Do you know what you are saying? Can my son have a sorrow, and I, his mother, not feel it? A grief and his mother not share it? What is wrong? Tell me. I will know!"

"Mother, there is a secret Jack is keeping from

Lady Walgrove, kissing him, said solemnly, "We promise this. We will never believe evil of you. Never, never, never."

Here Spurdy came in, with a note on a tray. Jack opened and read its contents with a look of surprise and fear. Turning to Spurdy, he said: "Show them up into my room."

"What is it, dear? No fresh trouble?"

"I do not know. I must leave you for a while. I will come to you as soon as I can." And, bowing his head, Jack left the mother and sister alone.

CHAPTER XXXVII.

Smudgee's Ancestral Halls.

When Smudgee got into her hansom, "with a horse in it," as she expressed it, she told the driver to take her to Somerset House; but that was merely to deceive the open-eared porter who held her skirt away from the mud of the wheel. As soon as she got to the Strand, she poked up the little door in the roof of the cab, and bade the driver take her to "255a, Stamford-street, Blackfriars; and, see here, cabby," she added, "let this racer of yours git a move on him. I'm goin' to ketch a train, not to bury me gran-mother."

When Smudgee arrived at her destination in Stamford-street, she was met at the door by her old chum, Dan Murphy.

Looking to Hayes, the two friends were soon on their way to Landale Abbey. Dan had done his best to look like, as he expressed it, McGinty in his best Sunday clothes, that he might impress Jack with his prosperity. Smudgee, we know, had done her best to look like the kind of lady Jack was now mixing with. With Dan as guide, it was not long before the two found themselves at Landale and in the Abbey. Whether Jack would be pleased to see her concerned Smudgee far more deeply than whether she was to be mistress of this lovely place.

She started violently, then held the arm of the chair in a wild clutch as Jack entered and said, in a constrained tone, "Smudgee! Murphy!"

So changed was his tone that a chill went to Smudgee's heart, and it was with a little gasp of surprise that she ejaculated, "Jack!"

Dan was surprised, too, at Jack's reception of them. They did not know what the poor fellow had been going through that day.

"Plazed ter see yez agin, Mowbray," was Dan's greeting.

"Call me Landale, please, Dan," said Jack, in his old kind tone, and Dan hit himself a blow on the side of his head with his clenched fist as he

PART I. SOON.

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"AT A MAN'S MERCY,"

OUR SPLENDID NEW SERIAL,

BEGINS TUESDAY NEXT.

audibly. When Sibyl had the power to speak, she said: "You told me you had never loved!"

"That was the truth."

"That you had never married?" She asked this with strained eyes, drawn, white lips, and tightly clasped hands.

Jack remained silent.

"Answer me, Jack," she begged.

"I cannot," he whispered, despairingly. There was another prolonged silence, again to be broken by Sibyl's quiet, sweet voice, saying:

"Then she is your—your—?" Her lips could hardly pronounce the word—"your wife?"

Not a word could Jack reply. He could not deny the lie, could not admit the truth. He was in a hopeless knot that could not even be cut, much less untied.

"Say something, Jack; something to ease this awful pain." So implored the poor girl, pressing her hand on her heart. "Say something, do—do. I don't understand why I should suffer so terribly. Other men have married the wrong woman; and, after all, it is your life, not mine. And yet—no, I feel it is my life, too. What is it, Jack? Why do I suffer so? What is it—tell me—tell me—in pity, tell me."

Jack's heart ached to take her in his arms and tell her the whole truth; or to grovel at her feet and entreat forgiveness for the cruel fraud he had practised on her and for the suffering he had brought upon her. Brokenly he said "Sibyl, God knows—that I—I—I would rather die than see you suffer so. But there is nothing to be said—nothing to be done. I cannot—not help you. Let me go." He moved to leave her, but she gently stayed him.

"No, no. Think a little what you are saying. You may have been led and tricked into a marriage—of which you are now ashamed. It is a terrible mistake; but we love you, and we will try—try to make your—your—how could she speak that word, it seemed such a desecration—"your wife—welcome."

The thought was horrible to Jack. Sal welcomed by Sibyl. No—no—a thousand times, no. He said, fervently, "God forbid. Never think of it—never dream of it. You don't know what you are saying."

"Then teach me, Jack. Make me know—make me understand. You have made a mistake in your life, eh? A mistake—yes, dear. But I—that is, we—we can forgive that. But we must know what the error is. You have deceived us—but you are a good man."

Jack shuddered, and cursed himself for a villain.

"I, I—a good man," he moaned.

"Yes; I feel it—I know it. There is some secret, Jack, that you are afraid to tell us. Have courage, dear. There is no wrong that you have been guilty of that our great love cannot forgive."

"This is too much to bear, too much," he moaned, and, tottering to a chair, sank into it, with his arms on the table and his face hidden.

Gently, Sibyl went to him, and kneeling at his feet, put her dear hands round his neck, and said, with the tenderness of a mother and the yearning of a lover,

"Dear, dear Jack, you have not been with us

us, that he fears to tell us. He thinks that some wrong that he has done, while away from us, will—if we know it—separate us."

The fear of another parting from her son sent a thrill of dread through the mother's body. "Separate us?" said Sibyl, in a low voice.

The girl stood erect, firm, determined, holding her mother with a strength that she had never known before; and, with deep earnestness and conviction, she said:

"Tell him that he is mistaken, mother. Tell him he does not know us—that he wrongs us to suppose for one moment that our love is so weak, so paltry as to shrink from him for a fault he has committed, is sorry for, and can atone for. Tell him he is mistaken."

Like a child repeating a lesson, the mother answered:

"You are mistaken, Jack."

"Tell him, whatever his sin is, God can forgive, and so can we."

"Whatever your sin is, Jack, we can forgive."

"That there is no sin he has committed, no wrong that he has done—that can equal the sin and wrong he will be guilty of if he leaves us again."

"Leave us again." The words struck on the mother's ears with a dead, dull, far-off sound, as one hears a voice in a dream. "Leave us again," she cried.

"There, be comforted, poor mother. I will never leave you until you thrust me from you."

"Oh, thank you, thank you, now, dear, what is all this trouble?"

"Let me forget it—at least, for to-day."

"No, Jack; you are wrong," spoke Sibyl, firmly. "We can never be happy with a hidden danger hanging over us. I must tell mother all I know. Mother, Jack has made a mistake which he thinks is a crime. It will pain you, but you will forgive. Jack has deceived us."

"How?"

"Sibyl, I implore you," Jack cried.

"I will speak," she answered. "He has led us to believe he was not married, and he is."

"Married; to whom? When?"

"That I do not know. He will not tell."

"Ah," said her mother. "The happiness yesterday; this grief to-day. Jack, it has been told me that there was a disgraceful scene here last night; that three disreputable people were with you—two men and a woman; that the woman and one of the men were carried out of the house in drunken insensibility; that Mr. Hewley said they were his friends; that they were they? Who was that woman?"

"Jack's wife, mother," said Sibyl.

"Jack's wife," repeated her mother, in horror.

"That is not all," sadly answered Jack. "There is something else. There is a sin that I have committed, that I am daily, hourly committing, that I can never atone for. Will you promise me, if ever the time should come—and it may come at any moment—when the truth shall be known to you, that you will believe that I was led into it by no base desire, no selfishness? I did it for the best. I may have been weak, wrong, wanting in thought, but never wanting in affection, never wanting in love. Will you believe this? Promise me you will!"

said, "The curse o' Crummel on me for an omadhaun. Av coorse—Landale, it is!"

Then there was a pause. Jack looked from Dan to Smudgee, and for a moment wondered whether they were there to injure him. "Ain't yer glad ter see us, Jack?" whispered Smudgee.

Jack looked at the puckered lips and the moistening eyes, and then asked, "Do you come as friends or enemies?"

Smudgee was deeply hurt at the question. That she should doubt Jack was impossible. How could he ever doubt her? "Jack—was I ever a sneak?" she queried.

Jack thought of all the hours he had passed in the "Never-Never Land" with the real and loyal hearted child, and answered cordially, "No, Smudgee, never."

"Very well, then," said Smudgee conclusively. Dan had felt the question, too, and he asked: "Was I ever a cur, Jack?"

"No, Dan."

"Very well, then."

Then Jack thawed, and with all his natural good-fellowship, echoed, "Very well, then. I am both a sneak and a cur to doubt either of you. Shake hands. And now, what has happened that you are here?"

Dan bowed to Smudgee, saying, "Ladies first. Go ahead, Smudgee."

"It's all about the pallis," Smudgee began.

"The pallis?" said Jack.

"Yus. And—" Here she was interrupted by Wong's entrance with the refreshments. When he had placed them on the table, he smiled and again left the room.

Jack busied himself helping Dan and Smudgee, and asked Smudgee what she meant.

"Well, we're here about the pallis and Mr. John Landale. But don't hurry me, Jack, or you'll put me out, and I want ter be particular. You're ere as Jack Landale, ain't yer?"

"Yes."

Smudgee looked carefully round, and, lowering her voice, whispered: "And, atween ourselves, you're Jack Mowbray?"

"You know I am, Smudgee."

"This pallis and everyfink belongs to Jack Landale won't dead?"

"It belongs to Jack Landale's becess, and she is Smudgee, otherwise Lucy Landale, John Landale's daughter."

"Does it? Well, we'll see about that. A nice kind o' duchess I should make in a place like this; wit my taste in 'ats, I don't think. However, to proceed. Mowbray and my dearly-beloved uncle Nat was at the Alhambra a few nights ago, when who should set 'em but Dan Murphy. Now you chip in, Dan."

To be continued.

EVERY EVENING THIS WEEK.

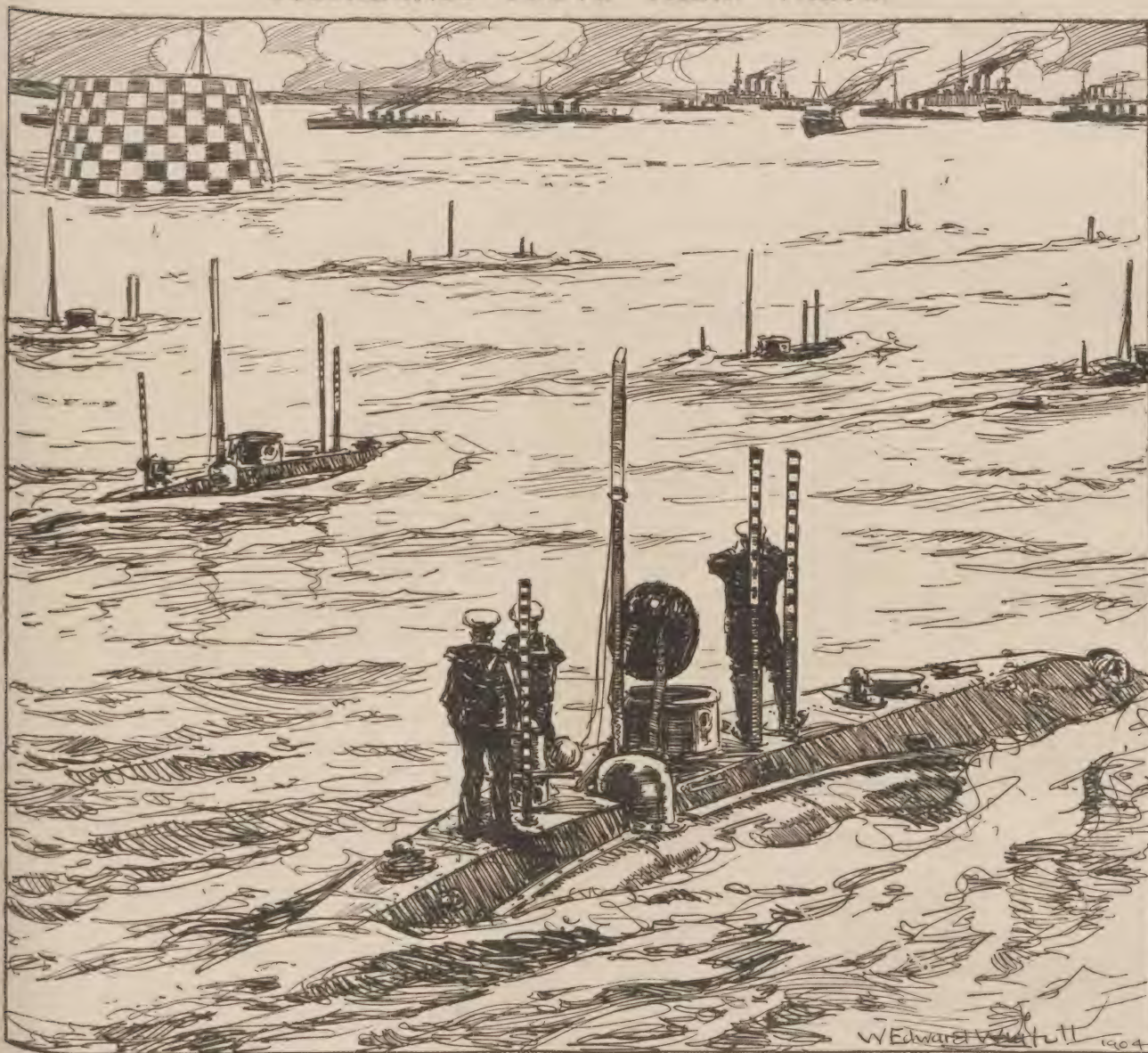
WILSON BARRETT, Shakespeare Theatre, S.W.

THURS., FRI., SAT., "SILVER KING."

Box Office Now Open. Ordinary Prices.

NEXT WEEK, KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

SUBMARINES PROVE THEIR VALUE.



Important naval manoeuvres have been carried out off the Isle of Wight. The object was to see what destroyers could do to protect a fleet from the attack of submarines. Twenty-four destroyers were sent out to prevent the submarines from torpedoing the battleships, but the submarines won the day by escaping the destroyers and sinking the battleships—theoretically.

DIVORCE BY ORDEAL.

Princess's Lecture on Life in a Turkish Harem.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

VIENNA, Feb. 23.

A lecture on Turkish harem life has been given by the Princess Hahir Ben Ali, who is at present visiting Vienna. The audience was distinctly disappointed to find that the lecture was to be read by an interpreter, as the Princess only speaks Turkish and some French. Further disappointment was caused by the fact that part of the lecture, on the customs obtaining in Yildiz-Kiosk, had been suppressed by the police.

The word "harem," the lecturer explained, simply denotes that part of the house devoted to the "home." In the whole of Turkey there are scarcely more than a hundred women who have received a European education. At the best, according to the Princess, women are only dolls in the hands of parents and husbands.

A serious custom, not unlike the Middle Age custom of ordeal, prevails if a woman wishes to be divorced. Two jars of water are placed before her—one full and the other empty. The full jar is considered first, and the one that gets the husband in the open street. But for the settlement of serious domestic disputes she may also appeal to the Palace, which proves the more efficacious means.

IA CORRECTION.

Our issue of Tuesday contained among the roll of heroes a portrait of Sub-Lieut. R. A. F. Montague, the winner of the Stanhope medal in 1877.

We are indebted to his brother for a correction; the name should be Sub-Lieut. R. A. J. Montague, R.N. It is pleasing to learn that the gallant lieutenant of 1877 is now a C.B., Captain of H.M.S. Charybdis, and Commodore on the Newfoundland station.

DON'T SHOUT!

Women Warned Not to Try to Talk in Rattling 'Buses.

Scarcely have the echoes of "Rita's" diatribes died away before Lady Violet Greville must needs take the modern woman again to task.

"It isn't so much the thing she says," that Lady V. Greville objects to, "but the nasty way she says it." In fine, no longer is her voice soft and low, but gruff, shrill, and unmelodious. How could it well be otherwise in this noise-ridden age? If a man cannot make himself heard, as he goes to and fro through the City's din, he holds his tongue, and there's an end on't.

A woman is not made that way. If she has something on her mind, out it must come.

We shout and shriek because needs must. We spend our lives in the crowd, and must talk the crowd down, or be ignored. Did fashion but suffer us to revert to the ways of our grandmothers and give us again the peaceful surroundings of bygone days our voices would fall into harmony with the quiet mode of life, unless, indeed, the mischief lie too deep, and they be permanently coarsened.

The idea (Lady V. Greville implies it) is alarming. "Miss Mirror," in search of a reassuring opinion, sought out a well-known voice specialist and begged for a few words of comfort. "There is no doubt," said the lady, an established authority on the subject, "that there is a tendency among women who go in for outdoor sports to acquire a harshness of voice, which may become permanent. From a lack of skill in pitching their voices to carry in the open air they strain and injure the delicate mechanism of the throat, and when it is too late become sensible that the voice is irredeemably coarsened."

"The effort to make oneself heard in omnibuses and trains is also injurious to the voice. In spite of these dangers, I have not found in my large experience that the quality of the Englishwoman's voice has deteriorated. I hold our language second to none in melodious possibilities when properly treated. If I may make my complaint, it would be a plea for a more distinct enunciation."

THE "THIN LEAD LINE."

Japanese War Toys Popular in London.

The fighting in the Far East has created a boom in war toys of every kind, especially Japanese metal soldiers. The tiny lead figures representing the troops of the Mikado have quite captivated the hearts of the little lords who rule the nurseries of England; they will play with nothing else. "Gollywogs," woolly "baa lambs," and kindergarten bricks lie neglected, while chubby hands move the Japanese lead soldiery to victory after victory on the broad wooden plains of the nursery table.

In anticipation of the effect an outbreak of hostilities would have upon the toy market, Messrs. Gamage stocked a large number of boxes of the lead troops of the rival Powers, but they quite failed to appreciate the extent of the demand. In a few days the stock was sold out, and the orders for the Japanese soldiers now being received from all parts of the country cannot be carried out until the new army corps come from the manufacturers.

Some wealthy children, notably the little son of a famous peer, have ordered whole Japanese armies—horse, foot, and guns—and they are augmenting their toy navies with flotillas of three-and-sixpenny torpedoes, which, by means of clockwork machinery, dart through the water at a great pace.

Never have the leaden soldiers of a foreign Power been so popular with the baby war-lords before. The standard bearing the rising sun now flutters in friendly rivalry over pasteboard fortresses, where the Union Jack once hung alone.

LOVESICK QUEEN.

Mlle. Marie Lily, queen of the Paris ragpickers, has selected a proposed husband from the butchers' craft.

The marriage cannot take place at present, for the suitor is in hospital with many broken bones, resulting from a jealous assault by her offered subjects. But "Queen Maria Clifton" intends the marriage to take place when he recovers.

LADY SPECULATORS.

Reckless Extravagance of Fair Gamblers on the Stock Exchange.

At the public examination in bankruptcy of the Countess of Roslyn it was stated she had lost £34,449 on the Stock Exchange. From New York comes the news that Mrs. Hunzmann, widow of the late Joseph Hunzmann, formerly Mr. Root's law partner, committed suicide on Monday through losses in stock speculation amounting to 600,000 dollars.

The craze for gambling in the stock markets among ladies is very extensive, though not perhaps so great lately as in former times, when the markets were in a better state and offered more opportunities.

At one time there existed quite an army of aristocratic "tipsters" in the West End whom the lady "treasure hunters" flocked to for advice in speculative affairs.

In conversation with our representative, a stock-broker in the City yesterday said: "A great number of our customers are ladies. They invest a great deal of their money in stocks and shares, and they also speculate very heavily at times. I have known some ladies to make thousands in a single deal, but I have also known them to lose more in less time. They often come to grief with a very big crash, and some of them find their way into the Bankruptcy Court; but as a rule their losses are met by their husbands or relations, and the general public never hears anything about them. They do not gamble so much now as they used to; in fact, nobody does."

WATERLOGGED BUTTER.

A Bill has been printed for the House of Commons proposing to make it unlawful to manufacture or sell butter containing more than 16 per cent. of water. Penalties are placed at £20 for first offence, £50 for second, and £100 for any subsequent offence. Irish salt butter will, however, still be allowed into England with up to 20 per cent. of water.

A PAGE OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO WOMEN.

A REMARKABLE FRENCHWOMAN.

THE CHIEFTAINNESS OF THE FRENCH GIPSIES OF THE FAIR.

Mlle. Eugénie Bonnefois is a little lady dressed in the style of fifty years ago; a silk gown, a velvet cloak, and a cottage bonnet. She is the chieftainess of the French gipsies of the fair—that is, the great travelling show which travels all over France giving exhibitions. There are 50,000 gipsies in France to-day.

Mademoiselle Eugénie Bonnefois lives, like the rest of the fair people, in a caravan that differs only from theirs in its daintiness and perfect appointment. She is seventy-four years old, and travels with the fair as it winds in and out of the provinces of France on its ceaseless exodus.

A Gipsy Who Wears a Decoration.

On the little gipsy lady's breast is the purple ribbon of Officier de l'Académie Française. She was born of gipsy parents, and her earliest recollection is of beating the drum and clashing the cymbals before the door of her father's booth. When she was eighteen she came under a strong religious influence, and her idealistic gipsy soul yearned to the heights beyond the stars and sky she loved. Throughout the war of 1870 she helped with the sick and the wounded, and, her father dying in 1872, she bought a dilapidated panorama, put it in order herself, and opened a little show at the Fair of Gingerbread.

She prospered, but her thoughts were not for herself. Her interest in her own people deepened. None of the gipsy children could read or write, or do aught but perform in the shows. Their fathers and mothers had had little or no religious instruction.

Mademoiselle Eugénie talked to them of their souls. They listened, and then a strange thing happened at Amiens on the day the fair closed there. Sixty-three men, women, and children went to church and took their first communion.

A School that Travels on Wheels.

Next came the establishment of a school, by Mlle. Bonnefois, for the gipsy children. After a while she took her panorama to pieces, and of it built a travelling schoolroom. At first few children came, but now, wherever the fair goes, too, the school-house, drawn by three pairs of horses. It is a structure of wood, and has desks, maps, and books. The motto above the teacher's desk reads: "Fear God, honour your parents, and love your country."

Mlle. Bonnefois now controls a complete organisation for the education of the gipsy children, and there are 300 boys and girls on the roll.

Paris admires her, patronises the show when it arrives, the pupils pass the Government examinations, and Mademoiselle is honoured as she deserves to be.

SPLENDID VALUE.

ONE SHILLING BUYS A VOLUME FULL OF WISDOM.

Among their Handbooks to Success, which cost only one shilling each, Messrs. Methuen have published a remarkably useful volume called "Health, Wealth, and Wisdom." The first part is packed full of practical hints upon the subject of which it treats, hints that do not pander to the vanity of woman, but tell her how she may practically improve the conditions under which she lives so that her beauty shall increase as well as her strength.

Fruit as an Aid to Hygiene.

The following extract from one of the chapters in this section of the book gives a very fair idea of its worth. It may be added that it is the work of a medical writer.

"Fresh ripe fruits are excellent for purifying the blood and toning up the system. As specific remedies, oranges are aperient. Sour oranges are highly recommended for rheumatism; water-melon for epilepsy and for yellow fever; lemons for feverish thirst in sickness, for biliousness, low fevers, pneumonia, colds, coughs, liver complaint, etc. Tomatoes are a powerful aperient for the liver, a sovereign remedy for dyspepsia and for indigestion.

"Tomatoes are invaluable in all conditions of the system in which the use of calomel is indicated. Figs are aperient and wholesome. They are said to be valuable as a food for those suffering from cancer; they are used externally as well as internally. Bananas are useful as a food for those suffering from chronic diarrhoea. Apples are use-

ful in nervous dyspepsia. They are nutritious, medicinal, and vitalising. They aid digestion, clear the voice, correct the acidity of the stomach, are valuable in rheumatism, insomnia, and liver troubles. An apple contains as much nutriment as a potato in a pleasanter and more wholesome form.

"Grapes dilute thick blood, send the circulation to the surface, remove obstructions from liver and lungs, dissolve and dislodge gravel and calculi, and bring the stomach and bowels to a healthy condition. Honey, I may add, should be far more popular than it is. It is not only softening to lungs and throat, thus giving extra voice power, but it is a tonic and a delightful pick-me-up. The

platitudes that usually appear in such books as this, makes good, practical, and sound common-sense remarks upon saving and investment, spending,

the worries of life, and fully brings to a close a remarkably ample shillingworth of helpful literature.



The picture on the left shows an exact representation of the new fashionable round gored skirt, made with flounces stitched at the edges. The bolero which is going to be modish again matches the skirt in design. Note the velvet collar, cuffs, and swathed belt.

SIMPLE DISHES.

CHEESE TARTLETS.

INGREDIENTS:—Four table-spoonsful of grated cheese, three table-spoonsful of white bread crumbs, a dust of cayenne and salt, one egg and one cup of good pastry.

Line some small patty-tins with the pastry. Prick the bottom part of the pastry over with a fork. Mix together the cheese, crumbs, salt, and cayenne. Beat up the eggs, add the milk to them. Add enough of this mixture to the cheese and crumbs to make them about the thickness of cream.

Half fill the pastry cases with this mixture. Put them on a baking-tin in a quick oven, and bake them a delicate brown. Sprinkle a little grated cheese on the top of each, and serve them very hot.

Cost 1s. 2d. for a dozen portions.

SCALLOPS OF PARTRIDGE.

INGREDIENTS:—Cold partridge, about four ounces; stock made from the bones, two table-spoonsful of red-currant jelly, a few grains of nutmeg, lemon juice, half a wineglassful of port wine.

Cut all meat from the bones of the partridge, and put the bones into a saucepan with enough water to well cover them and a little salt.

Let this simmer gently till all the goodness is out of the bones, next strain them out, and add to the stock the jelly, wine, nutmeg, salt, and pepper to taste. Chop the bird finely, and stir it in.

Brush over some china scallop shells with melted butter, pour in the mixture, shake over a layer of browned crumbs. Then place the shells on a tin in the oven until the scallops are hot through.

Cost 1s. 6d. for about four portions.

OFFERED THIS WEEK.

By SHAW & CO., Bankruptcy (late) & Liquidation, Ltd., 15, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C. 4, and SOHNS, City of Leeds, will sell Ladies' Jewellery, Furniture, Clocks, Sewing Machines, etc., in Black or Navy, richly trimmed with Silvers, Striped, also Linenette, Buckram, for the small sum of 2s. 6d. postage included. With each Shick a massive 18-ct. gold-pattern curb bracelet with heart pendant, mounted with pearls and turquoise, and scented forget-me-nots, cased in pure gold. Illustrated Bargain Catalogue of Carpets, Rugs, Curtains, Linens, Skirts, &c., post free. Address: F. HUDSON & SOHNS (Dept. D.L.R.), Manufacturers and Merchants, WOODSLEY ROAD, LEEDS.

BRIDGE DAY BY DAY.

By ERNEST BERGHOLT.

OUR FOUR-DAY TOURAMENT.

WEEKLY COMPETITION 9.—Coupon A.

♥ A, 3, 5.
♦ Q, J, 10.
♠ A, K.
♣ A, Q, 6, 5, 2.

♥ 7, 5.
♦ 7, 6, 4, 2.
♠ Q, J, 7, 5.
♣ 8, 4.

Score: Love all, Z deals and leaves it. Y declares No Trumps. A leads ♠ 7.

THE PLAY.

Trick.	A	Y	B	Z
1.	♠ 7	♠ A	♠ 6	♠ 4
2.	♦ 3	♦ A	♦ 9	♦ 8
3.	♦ 4	♦ K	♦ 8	♦ 7
4.	♠ 3	♠ Q	♠ K	♠ A
5.	♦ 5	♠ 2	♦ 9	♦ Q
6.	♠ 8	♥ 2	♦ 10	♥ J
7.	♠ K	♠ 3	♠ 10	♠ 9
8.	♠ J	♠ Q	♥ 6	♠ 2

Tricks 9 to 13.—Y makes two clubs and the ace of hearts. AB win the rest.

Result: AB, 3 tricks; YZ, 10 tricks.

Score: AB, 0; YZ, 48, and game.

COUPONS.

Trick 1.—Y must not fence ♠ Q. B holds one card higher than the 7, and if that card be the king, the game may be saved by AB, if the hearts are opened at once and established. Interchange the clubs of A and B, and give A the 6 of hearts, and the risk becomes evident. Similarly, Y must not play a small spade.

Trick 4.—By winning ♠ K, Z makes certain of the game, as nine tricks are then in sight. If he passes the king, all is well, as the cards actually lie, but should either opponent hold four clubs the game might again

be missed, AB making one club, king of spades, and three hearts.

Trick 7.—Z is now quite safe in playing for a tenth trick in spades.

It has been our constant practice to publish the awards of our competitions within the briefest possible interval. We believe that, by so doing, we make these contests far more interesting to our readers, who grow tired of waiting for results over an interval of several weeks, or even (as in the case of some of our contemporaries) several months. While the cards are still quite fresh in the minds of our solvers, therefore, we at once proceed to publish correct plays of the four Bridge deals constituting the Miniature Tournament which closed on Monday last.

That we may award the prizes with as little delay as possible, we now request all competitors who have played Coupon A correctly to write at once (a post-card will do) and claim their marks therefor. After verifying the claims made, we shall publish a complete list of the successful players. Coupons B, C, and D will be dealt with in the same way; when we shall be in a position to declare the final result, without risk of any oversight or error. If it be desired to use initials or a nom de guerre this should be stated in making the claim; otherwise, names will be given as they appear on the Coupons.

THE PROFESSOR AT THE BRIDGE TABLE.

The "Daily Mail" points out that one result of the enormous popularity of the new national card game has been to call into existence a class of teachers some of whom supplement their income very comfortably by taking pupils in their spare time. The game is now so generally played, and the stakes sometimes so substantial, that in society a sound knowledge of first principles is not only a most desirable accomplishment, but an imperative measure of self-defence. It is, of course, impossible to expect to get really adequate instruction from the ridiculously low fees that some self-styled "instructors" are asking. Bridge, in its finer aspects, is a life study, like chess, and it would not be worth the while of anyone having a real insight into the game to impart his knowledge for less than a guinea per hour.

WISDOM WHILE YOU WAIT.

That Bridge is a difficult game to learn, under proper guidance, is not true: it is considerably easier—besides being much more interesting—than whist. On the other hand, it is ridiculous to suppose that the whole art and mystery of an expert can be acquired in one or two lessons of an hour each. Yet we have heard of a lady who, after a single lesson, drove straight to a Bridge party and won £20!

AT OUR KETTLEDRUM.



H. CONWAY

Young Tommy, excitedly: "Do you know, Mr. Tompkins, I had a ride on a real donkey the other day in the Park."

FEMININE IRE.

More Eloquent Protests from Ladies on the Dressmakers' Bills Question.

Our postbag has again been laden with letters from ladies on the old, old question—a wife's dress allowance. Most of our correspondents ignore the point settled by Mr. Justice Phillimore, and confine themselves to the broad issue as to where the fault lies—whether the trouble is the result of man's meanness or woman's extravagance. The subject is evidently one that, to the average woman at least, is still full of interest, so we print below a further selection of letters representing varying shades of opinion.

(To the Editor of the Daily Illustrated Mirror.)

Your correspondent, "Disgusted," calls mine the "selfish sex." Permit me to point out that from time immemorial hers has been known in all civilized countries as "the dear sex"—and it is, so dear that, my income being limited, I am still obliged to sign myself,

BACHELOR.

(To the Editor of the Daily Illustrated Mirror.)

If men were more reasonable we should hear less of this eternal dress bill question. Many women are kept in utter ignorance of their husbands' business affairs and without any serious interest in life. Consequently they are apt to spend too much money and time on dress. If they were told more about their husbands' finances they would have an

additional interest in life, and when necessary would curb their expenditure. Why do not husbands try treating their wives as rational beings, and worthy companions? A. K.

(To the Editor of the Daily Illustrated Mirror.)

"In Debt" should be ashamed of herself. Why be in debt and make her life a constant burden through fear of a stupid man's anger?

Such a man should be firmly treated. Early in my married life I had similar trouble, but I tackled the problem boldly, and no longer have any trouble about my bills.

Ever since then I have known my husband's income, and insisted on being allowed what I consider a fair proportion of it for dress. Let her do the same. J. A. B.

(To the Editor of the Daily Illustrated Mirror.)

One wearies of the continual complaints of women against men that constantly appear in print. "Indignant Wife" seems to entirely ignore the fact that husbands, slaving morn, noon, and night in dingy offices while their "Disgusted" better halves are wasting time at eternal clubs and teas and getting into debt at bridge, have at least the right to spend such portion of their hard earned incomes as they deem fit on their own clothes.

One is for ever coming across the overgrown, over-dressed owner of an over-worked and over-anxious husband, whose personality is overshadowed by her too obvious presence and whose voice is hushed by her strident tones.

What wonder if he wildly endeavours to call attention to the fact of his existence by the "expensive ties" and "jewelled buttons" that so raise the ire of these ladies? The modern married man is a mere cypher at home and abroad.

K. VAUGHAN.

THE SOCIAL PEEP-SHOW.

The King is setting the fashion of going about a good deal in a quiet way and dining with his friends, so the rest of the world follows suit, and this Lenten season promises to be really very bright.

The Duke and Duchess of Somerset, who are giving a series of Wednesday dinners, had another last night, followed by music, at their house in Grosvenor-square, and Mrs. D'Arcy, a few doors off in the same square had a dance.

This afternoon Lady Garvagh, who is becoming so well known as a motorist, has a party for the Landgrave of Hesse, and there are amateur theatricals at Grosvenor House, which the Duchess of Westminster is coming up specially to attend.

A Popular Viceroy.

Nevertheless, it is in Dublin that all the exciting parties are taking place. A big dinner preceded Herbert and Miss Marjorie Coke were presented. In former days it was customary for the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland to kiss the cheek of ladies who were being presented; and I remember how very popular and good-looking Viceroy to remark how the number of presentations increased at each

successive drawing-room, the ladies evidently enjoying the "royal" embrace. Lord Dudley is, however, quite as popular, and many people are sorry that a charming old custom has fallen into desuetude.

"Sloper's" Birthday.

Apropos of Ireland, the birthday falls to-day of an Irish peer, Lord Annaly, who is a typical son of the Emerald Isle, full of wit and good spirits, and immensely popular. Known to his intimates as "Sloper," for no other reason than he is always admirably turned out, he is the owner of Holdenby House—for ever immortalized by Whyte Melville—and Master of the Pytchley Hunt. Lord Annaly has done much to uphold the glories of that famous Hunt, and last year revived with signal success the Pytchley Point-to-Point Races.

He used to drive about London in a cabriolet, with the smartest of small tigers hanging on to a strap behind, literally "by the skin of his teeth." Another peculiarity is attributed to him—in these days of Bridge he is one of the few remaining poker players in London.

To be Let.

There is a chance for notable nobodies who like to rent famous London houses for the season in the announcement that Alington House, in South Audley-street, is to be let, as Lord and Lady Alington have decided to keep on their own old residence in Portman-square.

Alington House, which is situated in a nest of big houses—Chesterfield House, Bute House, and

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who will see that you are supplied.

TO ILLUMINATE LONDON.

Westminster Tries a New Departure in Street Lighting.

Experiments are being made in Victoria-street, Westminster, with a new invention, which, it is claimed, economically increases the lighting capacity of the street lamps. The inventor is Mr. Nicholson, of Tavistock, and the Gas Light and Coke Company, who are responsible for the gas lighting of Westminster, are so favourably impressed with the new invention that they have placed six of their lamps at the inventor's disposal.

By means of a diamond-shaped reflector the power of three incandescent burners is rendered equal to sixteen, whilst the shadow which at present exists between the lamps in Victoria-street is completely done away with.

The success of the new invention is emphatically demonstrated when a man stands in a lamp where the reflector is used and a lamp without.

Never before has a reflector been devised which cast no shadow in any direction, and this renders it a distinct scientific achievement.

The new reflector literally creates additional lights, as anyone who inspects the lamps in Victoria-street may see.

The town of Tavistock has already adopted the new system, as have a large number of the more important houses of business in Plymouth.

Dorchester House being almost within a stone's throw—has not been opened for entertaining for many years on account of the late owner's continued ill-health. Nevertheless, it is admirably suited for social functions on a large scale, the suite of reception rooms being spacious and well planned.

Evelyn Lady Alington has already left Criche, and her "White Farm" will probably be removed to wherever she chooses to settle down. She will be a rich woman, for the late peer's income, chiefly derived from London property, was something over £50,000 a year.

The Newest Engagement.

Everyone is pleased at the engagement of Miss Hester Lyttelton, Lord Cobham's youngest half-sister, to the Rev. Cyril Alington.

The bride-elect, like all the other members of her family, is more than ordinarily clever, and is possessed, too, of a fair share of good looks. Tall and dark, she is extremely charming and a universal favourite. It is hardly necessary to remind people that Sir Neville Lyttelton, who has just been given an important post on the War Commission, and the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Alfred Lyttelton, are her half-brothers; and one sister, who married Mr. Lionel Cust, of the National Portrait Gallery, is almost as great an authority on art subjects as her husband.

The wedding is to take place very soon, and Miss Lyttelton is delighted at the prospect of living at Eton, where all her seven brothers were educated.

LIBERAL STRATEGY.

How the Opposition Failed to Bring Off a "Snap" Division.

When the House resolves itself into "Committee of Supply" on the Civil Service Estimates the Treasury Bench is generally monopolised by a couple of Junior Lords of the Treasury, who sit with deferential smiles, their knees laden with voluminous documents, listen patiently to the complaints of hon. members, and impart such information as the exigencies of the situation may require.

On these occasions the generality of members, feeling little interest in the drudgery of departmental detail are late in arriving. They prolong the enjoyment of their coffee and cigars beyond the accustomed time, forgetful of the fact that the nature of a "snap" division by an alert Opposition may involve the defeat of the Government. An attempt to catch the Government "napping" was made yesterday. The Ministry wanted a supplementary vote of £7,300 for expenditure in respect of royal palaces. The Opposition came down in force; the benches on the opposite side were comparatively empty.

Mr. Whitley Jumps.

Up jumped the smiling Mr. Whitley, the Liberal member for Halifax. "As a protest against the vote of the Osborne House being included in the Civil Service Estimates, I beg to move its reduction by £2000." Nobody rose to speak on the Liberal side, and the Chief Government Whip (Sir Alexander Hood) looked at the deserted Government benches and chewed his tawny moustache. To waste the Government time to rush their men to the Government benches was gradually filling; the Government benches were gradually filling; the Government benches were correspondingly emptying.

"As far as I can judge from the looks of the Tory Whips the Government's majority has arrived," said Mr. Whitley Redmond, amid a swirl of merriment. "It's nearly twenty now," ejaculated Willie Redmond, "and once again the House shook with laughter."

The Liberals were getting exasperated, and Sir Joseph Llewellyn, the Radical member for Accrington, moved the closure. This was accepted, and the Government to reduce the vote was negatived by 121 to 124. The majority was 371. The Government was saved!

It was now the turn of the Government. "Those who oppose have closed the amendment, and now we'll close the vote," said the Government Whip, and to that end Mr. Victor Cavendish moved the main question. The preliminaries to the division were commenced. The Liberals protested. To comply with the rules of the House when it is cleared for a division half a dozen angry members borrowed the hats of obliging colleagues and, keeping their seats, addressed the

chair. "Was it competent for the Government to move the closure when they hadn't themselves moved the closure?" asked Mr. Whitley Redmond. "It doesn't in the least signify whether the closure comes from my right or left, or from any other side of the House," ruled the Chairman. The Liberals were out-manoeuvred, and when the Government majority was given as 47 (170 to 123). The vote was polished off.



Mr. FRITZ KREISLER, the Hungarian violinist who has scored a triumph at the Queen's Hall. He was recalled to the platform five times.

"If I were King." A supplementary vote of £18,800 for the royal parks and pleasure grounds brought the sturdy member for Battersea to his feet. "J. R. is always forcible, if not illuminating. Yesterday he was both. The views from Buckingham Palace and St. James's Park were being spiced with advertising devices. Not only do we see advertisements of somebody's meat extract, or of somebody else's pills, or of somebody else's soap, but they show the royal insignia into the bargain. 'I would not have it,' naively added the labour leader, 'I would not have it.' The hon. member seemed surprised that hon. members giggled."

A vote for £2,000 for certain miscellaneous legal expenses "around memories of the late Whittaker Wright case. More information was sought as to the cost of the prosecution. The Attorney-General reported that the Government had paid the charges for the arrest and extradition of Whittaker Wright from America. These charges amounted to £1,147, and were included in

the Vote. The costs of the prosecution would be put upon the Law Charges Vote, which would come before the House at a later stage.

As a protest against the country being saddled with expenses of extradition, Mr. Swift MacNeill moved the reduction of the vote, but by 214 votes to 126 the Committee rejected the motion.

The question of the equivalent grant for technical education in Ireland was discussed at the evening sitting. The grievances of the "injured partner" were eloquently enunciated.

JEWISH REPLY TO KISCHINEFF.

We understand that the great Jewish financial houses on the Continent have been exchanging communications with reference to the subject of the new Russian Loan, and that as a result they have determined not to afford any facilities to the Russian Government in placing Russian stock on the market. The fact that Russia has never

ACTORS' GRIEVANCES.

Proposal to Make Acting Better in London.

The four proposals which Mr. H. Granville Barker put to the general meeting of the Actors' Association on Tuesday last at the New Theatre have created quite a flutter of excitement and interest amongst the members of the "profession."

The first of Mr. Barker's proposals aims at full salaries for matinees.

By his second proposal he hopes to alter the present system under which actors are not paid wages during rehearsals.

The third proposal states "that no actor or ac-

BULLER'S AUCTION.

The Famous General Sells His Furniture and Town House.

Sir Redvers Buller has disposed of the lease of his town house in Lowndes-square, and is selling the contents by auction.

Among the chief things disposed of at yesterday's sale were a Spanish mahogany wardrobe, which realised only 42 guineas; a satinwood secretaire, fetching 50 guineas; a Louis XV. escritoire of kingwood and tulipwood, £42 10s. A Louis XVI. suite, of white enamel and gilt and covered in an embroidery of old English needlework, went for just over a hundred pounds. A Chippendale cabinet realised £147.

The sale will be concluded to-day. The chief

STAGS STARVING IN THE SNOW.



The recent severe snowstorms in the Highlands have caused great suffering among the deer, many of which are like walking skeletons. In several places on the Duke of Fife's fine deer forest herds of 300 stags are fed daily with hay, locust beans, and turnips.

repudiated her financial liabilities and the innate richness caused by mineral wealth in the Russian Empire have not weighed against the feeling of intense antagonism to the Government of the Tsar which has been occasioned by the persecution of Jews throughout his dominions.



At several of the Japanese islands shipwrecked Russian mariners have appeared, but strangely enough they are all armed with cameras and field glasses.

trous shall be employed in a West End theatre who is not a member of the Actors' Association."

"What I am aiming at in this proposal," said Mr. Barker to our representative yesterday, "is to check the influx of incompetent and unqualified persons into the profession in London."

"Now, an actor is paid better in the provinces, and there he remains, while London puts up with incompetent persons, who are practically nothing more than supernumeraries."

"What we require is a charter making the Actors' Association the responsible head of the profession. It would mean the reorganisation of the whole profession, to everybody's benefit, including the playgoing public."

AMEER'S BROTHER IN DISGRACE.

Umar Khan and His Mother Incur the Royal Displeasure.

Interesting details are given by Reuter's Peshawar correspondent of the circumstances which have led to the relations between the Amier of Afghanistan and his brother, Mohammed Umar Khan, and also with the latter's mother, Bibi Halima, becoming strained.

Umar Khan recently sent his servant to Mohammed Alam Khan, superintendent of the Amier's stables, to ask him for a good horse to ride. The superintendent refused, and Umar thereupon sent his servant to behold him. The order was executed. The superintendent's family reported the matter to the Amier, who was very angry with his brother, and commanded him to deposit 500 rupees in the Royal Treasury as a fine, the money to be given to the heirs of the superintendent.

Subsequently Sardar Umar Khan was dismissed from the post of head of the Civil Courts, and is now treated as a State prisoner.

As regards the disagreement between the Princess and the Amier, it is stated that Bibi Halima had in her possession a complete suit of raiment studded with the precious jewels which belonged to the late Amier. Her Highness had several times asked Bibi Halima for them, but she denied their very existence. An inquiry was then made, which resulted in showing that Bibi Halima had ordered two goldsmiths to remove all the jewels from the coat, and that she had afterwards concealed the jewels.

feature will be a set of eighteenth century English chairs in the Hepplewhite style, believed to be the only set of the same style in existence, except at the British Museum. Also a number of oil paintings, pastels, and old mezzotint engravings.

There are twenty-four pictures in oils; about forty engravings of portraits by the two Reynolds, Watson, Angelica Kauffman, and other well-known artists; and about thirty prints, comprising many sporting and battle scenes.

Another interesting feature will be seven original counters used at Brooks's Club, mounted on plush, in black and gilt frame.

CITY FAILS TO STAY.

The stock markets made a fairly brave show at the outset yesterday, but did not make a good finish. The cause of the change of front was adverse news and liquidation following upon the optimistic statements of the morning. At first there was a rumour of a treaty between Turkey and Bulgaria, which helped the market, and later there was a rumour about a week ago seem to have been forgotten. It is, of course, a good point that there has been so little speculation here. But the Stock Exchange had something worse than a failure yesterday in the unusual announcement that a member, Mr. Charles Greaves, had been expelled.

Consols were rather an unsatisfactory market after opening fairly firm. Berlin and Amsterdam are two financial centres which have been rather largely interested in American Rails. Berlin and Amsterdam are two which yesterday were selling out stock in connection, it was said, with firms in difficulties; so that American Rails, which had opened in a cheerful vein, were falling back all the afternoon.

In the case of the Grand Trunk, there was another bad traffic to contend with, thanks to the terrible weather conditions, and so Canadian Rails were depressed. Mexican and Argentine Rails showed very little movement. Here the traffics were good, though the increases were not so large as usual. The cause of the slight reduction was that last Tuesday was Carnival Day, and Wednesday was the first day of Lent—both checks to traffic, owing to their holiday character.

The war bonds—Russian, Japanese, and Chinese—were rather dull. There was an attempt to lift Spanish at first, but there was soon a fall, for undoubtedly further liquidation of foreigners was going on. Berlin was selling Argentine bonds.

In the mining sections there was very little notice except as regards Kafirs. Here Continental sales were reported, especially on Berlin account, as the firms in difficulties were said to be chiefly concerned with Kafirs and Americans.

